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# MARYLAND

DEVOTED TO  
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



# FARMER:

LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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## Winter Care of Stock.

We give below, from our excellent contemporary *The Agis and Intelligencer*, of Bel Air, Md., extracts from its admirable report of the doings of the DEER CREEK FARMERS' CLUB.

The January meeting of the Deer Creek Farmers' Club was held at the residence of S. B. and Geo. E. Silver, Saturday, 20th of that month. The subject announced for discussion was the "Winter Care of Stock."

Mr. Silas B. Silver said stock should be regularly fed and well taken care of, both as a matter of profit and pride. One way is to stable them, feeding rough food. They should not be too closely housed and should have ample room for exercise and for rubbing themselves during the day, with free access to water. Another method is to give them all the rough feed they will eat in the field. Shelter should be provided for stormy weather. Sheep are wintered more easily than other stock. They should have shelter from storms, but not be kept in too close quarters and have exercise and plenty of water every day. Horses should have grain with their hay. It gives them good coat and keeps them in good condition.

Benjamin Silver, Jr. said, he is wintering cattle on rough food with a view of pasturing them in the spring. He believed it to be a good plan to feed in the field. If cattle are kept up the stables should be open and well ventilated. Cattle can be checked in improvement by being stabled too closely. If cattle are stall fed they should be fed at regular intervals, three times a day, as much as they will eat clean. It is not well to give horses much hay. Grain keeps

their coats sleek, and good currying is equal to feed. Sheep and all other animals should have grain in winter. If they get behind in winter they lose too much time recovering in the spring.

John Moores said the first thing to do toward wintering stock is to put your fodder and hay up in nice order. Next, to have a good clean place in which to feed, so that the cattle will not waste it, and each one gets its due share. He thought feeding in the field was better than in the barn yard, for the reason last named. It is important to begin feeding early in the morning, in order that the times of feeding may be more equally distributed during the day. You should be kind and gentle to stock. A rough, noisy man is not fit to handle stock. A man should even be taught to walk around a bullock in the barn yard and not to drive it out of his way. Feeding cattle in the field is a good way, especially in the early part of winter. You should also have a straw rick for them in the field. Hogs should be kept warm and dry, and should have shelter where they can house themselves. They will do better sleeping on the ground than on boards. Mr. Moores was in favor of feeding cows moderately every day, summer and winter. If cows are fed all the strong food they will eat, they will not give so much milk or make so much butter. A change of feed is desirable. The stables should be cleaned out in the morning when stock is turned out. The barn and feed room should be swept out every day and the litter given to out-cattle, which will eat much of it.

George E. Silver thought farmers should remember that it is easier to maintain flesh than to put it there. Horses and cattle kept in good condition during the winter, immediately begin to improve in the spring. Different kinds of stock require different

treatment. Young stock should be housed and grained and have plenty of nourishing food. Stock of mature age will do better with rougher treatment. Where cattle are not stall fed and you have plenty of rough provender, it is a good way to feed them in the field if the weather is not too rough.

R. Harris Archer said Mr. Moores had struck the secret when he said hay and fodder should be saved in good condition, but he would add wheat straw, which he regarded as excellent feed, if a little green. He feeds chaff as well as straw. Farmers waste a great deal of hay in feeding it to horses. They should not have too much hay. Stock can be kept too closely confined, especially if feeding a little meal, intending to turn them on grass in the spring.

Mr. Lochary made an inquiry about the use of salt. Mr. Janney thought cattle should have rock salt at any time; it improves their appetite. Mr. Archer and Mr. Benj. Silver, Jr. did not think salt absolutely necessary to cattle.

Mr. Moores regarded it as very advantageous to cattle, and Mr. Rogers thought it should be placed where they could get it at will.

Mr. John Rogers was of the opinion that stock can be wintered better in the stable yard than anywhere else, but shelter must be provided for them, and racks where the fodder can be kept dry. Cattle will eat but little wet fodder. By feeding in the yard you also get the manure. If fed on grain they must be stabled.

Johns H. Janney said, his experience is that it does not pay to feed cattle in stables through the winter, to sell early in the spring. The same winter he tried this, he wintered 30 head in the barnyard and field, fattening them on grass. He gave them no corn and the profit per head was greater. Cows, to be profitable, must be well fed and well housed. They should be fed and milked regularly, and should have some ensilage or roots cut up once a day and mixed with bran. It will increase the milk and keep the cows in health. Turnips are good for cows and sheep. Raising young stock is an important matter. Colts should be wintered warm, have some oats every day, and be allowed to exercise daily when the weather is suitable. Oats produce bone and muscle and are better for all horses than corn; the latter is too heating.

Thomas A. Hays said horses are often

fed too much hay. A change of feed is necessary for them. It pays well to raise oats for horses. Many farmers regard oats as a non-paying crop. The reason is—they fertilize for wheat and corn, and expect to raise oats without fertilizer. He always puts a little fertilizer on oats and it pays well. We ought to try and have roots for cows. In the morning, feeds bran and meal, and at night mixes a feed of sugar beets or ruta bagas with the bran and meal. He found that the cream is twice as thick when feeding sugar beets as when feeding ruta bagas. Steers when fed grain should have salt twice a week. Cattle and hogs should have a little sulphur occasionally.

Edward P. Moores thought nothing paid better than proper care and feeding of stock. Cattle for grazing will do better in the field than in the yard, in moderate weather. Unless the ground is covered with snow there is always something in the field they can pick up, and they should also have a straw rick to go to. He did not regard cows as profitable stock, except for tenants and people who let them run on the commons. Horses for light work, should have grain and a little hay, but horses worked in a team should have plenty of hay.

Wm. Munnikhuysen, the President, was in favor of feeding cattle in the field. Ten head of cattle now on his place have never been in the barn yard but one day and are in as good condition as the cattle that are stabled and fed on meal. The field cattle get only fodder. Young cattle should be housed, particularly the first winter.—Keeping hogs warm and dry is fully one-half the feed. All animals are better with exercise. Too much hay is an injury to horses, and many farmers also feed too much grain.

MANURE.—Fresh manure produces but little effect when applied to crops, but when it is well rotted it then contains much valuable soluble matter absorbable by plants. In fresh manure the most important constituent of its soluble portion is potash, and contains but small proportions of ammonia and phosphoric acid. Rotten manure, on the contrary, yields to the solvent action of water large amounts of nitrogen and phosphoric acid.—*American Cultivator*.

## Farm Work for March.

Every farmer has before this, no doubt, formed his plans and made his arrangements for the farm operations the present year, and is ready to embrace the earliest moment that will present itself this month to begin his active labors. This is an important period of the year to the farmer. If the weather be propitious and the frost gets out of the ground early, it will set him forward in his spring work so far that he will be able to keep ahead of his work the whole year, unless he commits the unpardonable fault, too often done, of over-cropping himself for his force and means.

### Oats.

As we have said before, quite recently, we say again, oats ought to be sown as early as the state of the land will admit, for the earlier sown, the better will be the crop. It is time and labor thrown away to sow this seed on poor land, while it is a profitable crop on good land. Plow the land deep, harrow and cross-harrow until it becomes light and mellow, and whether the oats are lightly plowed in or harrowed in, sow clover seed, 2 gallons per acre; then roll, so as to compact the soil about the seeds. One and a half or two bushels should be sown per acre. Get the best seed. With the oats sow 6 to 10 bushels of bone dust per acre, and dress the whole field with a mixture composed of equal parts of salt, plaster and ashes, (if to be had,) at the rate of two bushels of each, per acre. The ashes may be left out, if not convenient, but it is a valuable ingredient in any mixture, for both the land and most crops. The land should be well drained or deeply sub-soiled for this grain, as it requires moisture, which deep cultivation is calculated to afford, while it does not do well on sobby land, with a hard pan near the surface. A fair crop of oats in an ordinary year, cultivated as above, would be from 40 to 50 bushels, worth from 40 to 60 cents per bushel weight.

### Fences.

Let these be put in proper order and all bushes and briars cleared from the corners and sides, as they cause the fence rails to decay, and a clean fence gives an air of neatness to the farm.

### Clover.

Should a favorable time come this month, sow your clover seed, and harrow it in amongst the wheat and rye. The harrowing will benefit the grain by loosening the hard crust of the grain fields, formed by the rains and drying winds of

the winter. It is a working for the small grain crops that is highly beneficial. This work may be put off until next month without detriment.

### Corn.

Do all the plowing for the corn crop you can this month, so that it can be put in good order with the harrow when desired, or afford you the time to cross-plow all the rough places, that the entire field may be in the best tilth for the reception of the grain when it is time to plant. As many of our readers live in the Sunny South where corn planting is going on at this season of the year, we would urge them to plant only on well prepared, fertile or highly manured ground, for otherwise, at the high price of labor, and low price of corn, the crop will not pay expenses. Better be a month later in planting, if the delay will enable them to prepare the land well, and manure it or fertilize it with some good superphosphate, or other grain producing manure, such as dissolved S. C. Rock with Kainit.

### Potatoes.

As in this section early potatoes pay better than late ones, we would advise that a few acres be planted as soon as the weather and condition of soil permit. To grow the largest crop, the land should have been deeply plowed and heavily manured last autumn, so that now, by cross-plowing and harrowing, the manure would become thoroughly incorporated with the soil, and easily brought into fine tilth, but if this has been neglected, the ground intended for this crop should be highly manured and plowed deep, and got into fine condition. Then lay off rows three feet apart, and four inches deep; in these trenches sow some phosphatic fertilizer, at the rate of 400 lbs. or more per acre, according to the strength of the article, or scatter in the rows well rotted stable manure, and drop the pieces of potato 10 or 12 inches apart in the rows. If the potatoes are cut small, put two pieces in a place; if cut in halves, one piece is enough. Cover with a small plow or with the hoe.

Get good seed of the best of some well established variety for the general crop, and purchase small quantities to try, of some of the many new sorts advertised by the seedsmen, among which are the two sorts illustrated elsewhere in this number of the MARYLAND FARMER, and also advertised in its columns. There are many other new seedling potatoes constantly put on the market, all worth trial, though some may not come up to expectation. Yet, among the number, one may repay the cost of the whole lot experimented with.

Potatoes, we think, should be of medium size for planting, and cut with one or two eyes to each piece, and planted from three to four inches deep, if the soil is light. Dr. Sturtevant, a careful and learned investigator has made, and continues to make some very interesting experiments as to the methods of cutting potatoes, much of which we have given our readers, and we shall continue to give the results of his experiments the coming season for their benefit.

Potatoes are a money paying crop and should receive more attention as a crop than it has done heretofore by our farmers.

When the vines are well up, dress with plaster and ashes mixed, or any good fertilizer.—Plow with the bar close to the potato, and in a few days reverse the working by running the mouldboard next to the vines; then follow with the hoe, killing all the grass in the rows and leveling the earth about the young plants. Keep them clean afterwards by use frequently of the cultivator. When about to blossom plow lightly so as to throw the earth to the plants, and with the hoe smooth the furrows so as to leave the plants in the centre of a broad, smooth hill, slightly dished about the plants. After-work consists in merely hand weeding and keeping clear of grass by use of the hoe. When ripe, gather and send to market. If you desire the largest profit from your sales, cull them closely. Make two sorts very carefully—the largest and the medium size. Each bag or barrel should be uniform in size. The small ones feed to your hogs or cows, as they will not pay for transportation. Be careful to do this and soon each potato grower will have a reputation that will secure him a ready sale at an advance, even from the middlemen, who are the great obstacle in the way of the farmer receiving a fair reward for his labors, and the consumer from purchasing at reasonable rates.

#### **Meadows.**

Which have been in grass a long time, and seem to be giving way in spots, would be greatly benefited, if not renovated, by being sown with mixed grasses, wherever needed, top dressed with 7 to 10 bushels of bone dust, or plaster and salt 3 bush. each, per acre, and harrowed with a heavy, sharp-toothed harrow. This must be done when the ground is dry, or nearly dry.

#### **Brood-Sows.**

Should bring their pigs early next month, and be well treated, and kept supplied with dry litter under cover for bedding.

#### **Sheep.**

Look well to the sheep now, and take especial care of such ewes as will have lambs this month. In bad weather give grain and good hay, clover hay is best, with a liberal supply of hay to those ewes which have lambs. Let them have free access to salt, and learn the lambs to eat meal and mill feed or chopt oats, if you desire to have them large and fat, either for the butcher early, or as future breeders. A little extra care and cost will pay a high interest in this matter.

#### **Young Stock.**

Feed generously on grain, ground coarse like small hominy

#### **Working Cattle and Horses.**

This is a very trying month to working beasts and they should be well cared for and highly fed, with constant moderate exercise to prepare them for their coming hard labor.

#### **Milk Cows.**

Keep these in good order and give those you are milking a plenty of slops, warm, at least, not half frozen. A bucket of warm water with one quart of meal or shorts stirred in and seasoned with salt, will, if given once a day, increase the flow of milk greatly. Let them, and indeed all your stock have plenty of pure, clean water, and access to salt at times. We have found a mixture of equal parts of salt and ashes, a gill twice a week, very good for stock of all kinds. It may be mixed with their food, or given alone.

#### **Tree Planting.**

Plant out as many Locust, Chestnut, Walnut and Oak trees as you can this month. Prepare the places for setting out shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery next month. Dig the holes and put in each, half a bushel of equal parts of manure and wood's earth, or rotted sods for the trees, and less quantity for shrubs. If you design to plant an orchard, lay it off now and prepare the holes as above, if only a few fruit trees, begin now to have the places for them got ready so when you get them they may be immediately set. In planting nearly all sorts of trees, it is best to trim the branches close, so as to leave a small pyramidal head, and if very tall, cut off the tops. This applies not to the generality of ornamental trees.

#### **Plaster.**

If you have not already done it, sow plaster over the young clover and grain; if three bushels of salt were added to two of plaster, well intermixed, it would be greatly for the better. Make free use of the plaster over your barnyards,

pig pens, in the stables, hen houses, and over such places where the slops, ashes and house slops are deposited.

#### Poultry Houses.

Whitewash and cleanse with carbolic soap-suds, the poultry houses—keep clean, use lime and ashes and fresh earth on the floors of the same, which remove and put in barrels with the droppings of the fowls once a week, and you will be supplied with a valuable lot of the best fertilizer you can get. Feed your fowls with a warm mess of meal and potatoes once a day, with grain of different sorts at morning and at night. Diversify their food; provide ashes for dusting themselves, and lime, pounded oyster shells, (coarse bone dust they are fond of,) meat scraps and bread crusts, with meal and husks, and you will have abundance of eggs and fat poultry for the table. Ducks and geese are hearty and gross feeders.

#### Manures.

This is a favorable time to haul out and spread manures. It is a good season to sow 3 bushels of salt, and one or two of plaster, or 10 bushels of ashes per acre, or to spread lime at the rate of from 20 to 50 bushels per acre on grain crops, clover or pasture fields. For economy in labor, and to have the stable and barnyard manure, whether coarse or well rotted, spread evenly and to accomplish the most good, every farmer will find it best for him to procure a good "Manure Spreader, Pulverizer and Cart, combined." A boy can drive and spread a cart load of manure in less time and more effectually, with no labor, than can be done by two men in the old way at great labor by means of the forks and shovels.

#### Seeds.

We would advise every farmer to lay in early his supply of field and garden seeds for the year. By purchasing at once there is often money saved and better seed obtained. As the season for each variety closes, the demand increases and sellers put up the prices to suit the demand, which, if great, often induces the introduction upon the market, seeds of inferior quality. Therefore it is a wise course to think over all that is wanted in the way of clover, timothy, new oats, potatoes, barley, pumpkins, beans, peas, &c., for field culture, and consult the catalogues of nurserymen and seedsmen for garden seeds, and order the same in time, so that if not on hand you will be among the first served as soon as they are received from the respective growers. Consult the MARYLAND FARMER or some other agri-

cultural paper of reliability as to new products and new varieties and order some for trial. Do not venture too far in *new things*. Try them and they may prove a bonanza, and if they fail, you will lose but little or nothing, for it must be a humbug, indeed, if \$1 spent in the trial of a new potato, oat, or corn, does not yield enough seed at common market price to refund your outlay. The only loss would, in such an event, be loss of labor, and rent of ground occupied. We like therefore such experiments, for while the risk is small, the profits may be large. Take the Early Rose potato as an example. When first introduced it sold \$3 per peck. Well, a man planted a peck and got, say, ten bushels of potatoes worth more than cost and labor and rent of land, &c. And for years after, this kind brought ten or twenty per cent. more per bushel than any other sort. One advantage in these experiments with new seeds, is the fact that the man who pays a large price for a new variety of vegetable or grain, or an improved breed of animal, takes more pains with it, cares for it, nurtures it and builds his hopes on it, hence, he slides imperceptibly into a better system of culture and gradually his eyes are opened to the fact that much of success depends upon proper culture and care, both in regard to plants and animals.

#### Garden Work for March.

About the middle of the month prepare a hot-bed. Let it stand two or three days until the earth on the manure has been heated through, and the heat has settled to a somewhat even temperament. Then smooth the top of the bed, draw shallow trenches three inches apart, and sow thinly in them, tomatoes, radish and beet seeds—cover with back of the rake, press lightly and water with a fine rose nozzled watering pot. Then manage the bed as your experience dictates. As a general thing in the country too little air and too much water is used with hot beds. The inexperienced must remember if the glasses, are left on tight, and not lifted during a hot sun for an hour or so, the plants may be killed by the heat. Hot-beds require close and judicious attention.

But the chief advantage of the hot-bed can be secured by what is called a cold frame, and is better adapted to the wants of the majority of farmers, being more easily managed. They can be made of any sizes or form. This is simply a hot bed frame with sash placed upon a bed of fine mel-low earth in some sheltered place in the garden.

By the exclusion of air and the admission of sun the earth becomes warm and the moisture is confined, as in the hot-bed. After the frame is secured in its place, a couple of inches of fine earth should be placed inside and the frame closed up for a day or two before the seeds are planted. As the cold frame depends upon the sun for its warmth it must not be started as soon as the hot-bed, and in this latitude the middle of April is early enough. Plants will then be large enough for transplanting to the open ground, as soon as danger from frost is over, and as a general thing, they will be harder and better able to endure the shock of transplanting than if grown in a hot-bed. A frame of this kind any one can manage. Watering, occasionally, will be necessary, and air must be given on bright, warm days.

To garden successfully one rule should not be lost sight of, that is *rotation of crops*. Some vegetables are impatient of change of soil, some will not do well if planted in the same place oftener than once in three or four years. Peas and cabbage especially will not flourish if planted in the same bed the following year. The vegetables which follow each other in rotation should be as dissimilar as possible. Another rule is, manure very highly and keep the grass and weeds from even showing themselves.

*Asparagus*.—Now is the time to set out a bed or beds of this excellent, indispensable vegetable. 200 roots are enough for a single family. Get Conover's *Colossal Asparagus*. It is fine.

As soon as the ground is in good working order, embrace the opportunity to sow onion seed, plant onion setts; sow peas, Tom Thumb, American Wonder, or the old Dan O'Rouke; parsnip, carrot, Egyptian beet, salsify, spinach, radish and snap beans, three inches deep. These last after the middle of the month. We have named some of the different vegetables because they are our favorites, after trials with many others. It may have been they suited our locality and soil better than any others with which they were tested.

*Potatoes*.—We have said all we desired about the culture of this indispensable vegetable in our reminders as to Work on the Farm for this month. If planted in the garden, they should be at once, and in flat hills only 2 inches deep, with a shovel-full of long manure on top of each hill, besides well rotted manure under the potato. This mulch will keep off the frost and cold and the tubers will sprout much sooner.

*Corn*.—If the weather is suitable, corn may be planted the latter part of the month. The best table corn is the wrinkled sweet varieties.

*Lettuce, Early Cabbage, Spinach and Kale*.—These which were set out last Autumn may now have the bushes, or brush, or mulch with which they have been protected, removed and the plants worked; the missing ones replaced from the seed beds, or by the plants drawn out where they are too close together, and then return the brush or mulch. It would be well to dust the plants after working them, with a mixture composed of two parts plaster, two parts leached ashes, one part soot, and one part pigeon manure. The latter is very powerful and valuable manure for the garden.

*Seeds*.—Every person who intends having a good garden this year, should now get the catalogue of some reliable seedsman and carefully select and procure all the seeds they may want during the spring. Among the novelties of garden seeds this year we notice Henderson's Early Snowball Cauliflower, and his Early Summer Cabbage, London Red Celery, John Bull Pea, California Branch Bean, Livingston's Favorite Tomato, and many other vegetable varieties that their producers herald with a flourish of trumpets. It is well to give some or all of them a trial, some may prove worthless or unsuited to your locality or soil, while others may give great satisfaction. Nothing can be lost by a trial and there is a chance for obtaining a choice article.

#### Manure in Winter.

The making and saving of manure are among the most important labors on the farm in winter. The value of this product depends upon the character of the food given to the animals, the kind, age, and care of the stock, and the attention that it receives after it is dropped. Manure from the stables may be put in square, compact piles, which will retain sufficient heat to keep out the frost and rot rapidly. By adding the fresh manure to the top, and forking in the sides, the whole heap will be in fine condition for use in the spring, and will give quick returns on any field crop. The worst arrangement is to have the droppings scattered over a large open yard, to be frozen and trampled into the mud.—*Ex.*

KELLEY'S ISLAND, OHIO, March 28th, 1880.—I have used Kendall's Spavin Cure on a bone spavin, and am pleased to report that it has taken the enlargement completely off. It took only one bottle to perform the cure. I am confident if it is properly used it will do all you claim for it.

Yours truly, C. M. LINCOLN.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Needs of the Soil.

Plants require food as much as animals, and the wise farmer will study the character of his soil and the needs of his crops, so that he may obtain the best results from them. It is one of the open secrets of successful farming to ascertain, as near as possible, in what elements the soil is lacking, and then to supply those elements in the right proportion.

There is no doubt that stable manure is the best fertilizer that can be applied to the soil, and the farmer who can supply the needs of plant growth with it, may consider himself exceedingly fortunate. It is the best because it is formed by the decomposition of plants, and contains the elements which plant growth demands, combined in just the right proportions. But to meet all the requirements of the soil with such a fertilizer is manifestly impracticable, as the supply must some time fail, hence we are justified in resorting to prepared fertilizers, such as bone dust, lime, phosphorus, potash, etc., to be used separately or in combination as we shall find our soil demands. Now the great thing for the farmer to know is, in which of these elements his soil is lacking, so that he may furnish it. Try potash, and notice the result in the next crop taken from that plot. Try phosphorus, or lime, or soda on other plots, and see to which the plant rootlets take most kindly, and then treat the whole field to the food it asks for. He will find that different fields demand different nourishment, and this the wise farmer will stand ready to supply in proper quantity.

Of the fourteen elements which all plants require for their growth, four are termed organic, viz: oxygen, carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen. Of these, the first three are supplied wholly from the atmosphere, while the last comes in part from the atmosphere and in part from the soil. These four constitute about 95 per cent. of all the food consumed by healthy plants.

The remaining ten elements, termed inorganic are derived mainly from the soil. A plant will thrive best when these fourteen elements are present in the right proportions. By a succession of crops, each one of which takes its own kind and proportion of these elements from the soil—the soil, in time, becomes worn out unless

it is replenished, and the farm is *run down*, as the farmers say. As well as they know the inevitable results of continuous cropping without returning to the soil what it requires, they continue the practice which in the Eastern States, especially, is one of the worst features in the present mode of farming and an evil which should be remedied.

With more attention to the soil's demands for food, good farms may be kept so, and depleted, unproductive fields may be transformed into rich and productive seed beds, which shall repay the farmer many fold for his extra expense and care.

RUSTICUS.

### Large Landed Estates.

The largest tract of land owned by one management as a farm is probably the cattle range of the Prairie Cattle Company, of Texas, which owns about 3,000,000 acres, but it is all used for grazing, and it is not a farm in a true sense of the word. It is the same, perhaps, with the large wheat-growing tracts in California and Dakota, which are not actual farms cultivated under an ordinary system. The largest farm of this kind is the Hiram Sibley farm, in Illinois, known as Burr Oaks Farm, which is eight miles square, and contains 40,000 acres. It was formerly the Sullivant Farm. It is now used in part for growing seeds. The crops last year were 225,000 bushels of corn, 20,000 of flaxseed, 15,000 oats, and 3,000 tons of hay, besides 800 fat cattle fed. Forty acres were in cucumbers for seed, and 105 in one kind of corn for seed; 146 men and nearly 1,100 horses are employed in the farm-work, and there are 134 tenant houses, besides a village of over 100 houses, stores, churches, hotels, etc., kept up by the business of the farm.

STRAW FOR FODDER.—There is much more general disposition than formerly to use straw for food. It has more nutritive value than was formerly supposed, but is deficient in nitrogenous or flesh-forming elements. It is found that store cattle, which it is not intended to fatten, will winter well on straw with a ration of wheat bran or mill-feed. If they are giving milk or fattening, this will not do, but in the scarcity of good hay, more straw is used in fattening stock than ever before, and the deficiency supplied by corn or oil-meal.

For the Maryland Farmer,

### Corn, Cotton and Tobacco.

The sun has made his winter trip South and is now rapidly moving towards his Northern limit, and soon his warm, gentle and invigorating rays will start all vegetable life in motion, and now is the time for the farmer to ask himself how shall I proceed, and what shall I do to double or triple my crop of corn, cotton and tobacco, with the least expense, and it may not be out of place to draw their attention to the fact that while complaints come from all quarters of the failure of expensive ammoniated fertilizers, which are usually stuffed with the waste of slaughter houses, such as blood, livers, lungs, old shoes, boots and leather ground up, so that nitrogen may make its appearance through the combustion tube of the analyst, which fixes a certain value to it regardless from whence it came, and the high price placed upon nitrogen gives a value to the old shoes, &c.

On the other hand, from all quarters we hear of good results obtained from the use of the plain phosphate and Kainit, entirely free of all nitrogen or any compound capable of producing it. That there is an unknown and invisible supply of nitrogen in some form, none with the brains of an idiot will deny, and the simple question is whether we can improve our lands and make good crops without paying from 20 to 30 cents a pound for nitrogen. For one, I have no negative position on this subject, for I *know* it can be done, and can prove it, and so can any one who will try, and the sooner the farmers abandon the idea that such fickle, fermenting, putrifying and offensive material which is used to obtain nitrogen is of great value the sooner his prospect of success is assured, for he will know what he is buying, and securing it at a much less cost than 20 to 30 cents a pound.

Regarding corn, the first named in my list, I have read with much interest the experiments conducted on the experimental farm of the University of Virginia in which results are given from the use of ammoniated and unammoniated fertilizers, and from the applications of a mixture of plain superphosphate and Kainit much the largest yield of corn was obtained. The mixture being in the proportion of 3 parts superphosphate and one part Kainit.

I regret that my own experiment with the second named article, cotton, does not permit me to speak of it from the standpoint of actual experiments, but to judge from the reports of those who have, great results have been obtained from the use of plain phosphates and Kainit mixed with cotton oil cake, and to attribute the good effects of oil cake to the small percentage of nitrogen it contains, is not conclusive to the writer.

My friend, Professor W. Simon, of Baltimore, who is known as a thorough analytical chemist, has recently informed me that he has analysed some ashes from the cotton plant obtained from the furnace of a cotton oil mill where the cellulose matter was burnt for fuel, and he was amazed at the large percentage of potash and phosphate found in the ashes, which being mingled with the carbonaceous matter deposited in the soil from the rotting of the plant, other causes can be claimed for its good effects, besides the trace of nitrogen found in the quaternary portion of the cake. When this carbonaceous matter by long tillage is burnt out by the chemical action developed by growing plants, it must be returned to secure a productive soil, and the organic portion of the cake will furnish to some extent the carbon which seems so necessary for plants of a high order, hence the great importance of turning under a growth of vegetable matter, not for the 2 or 3 per cent. nitrogen they may contain, but for the fifty per cent. carbon which is the main element in humus into which the vegetable matter passes by the slow oxidation or fermentation of the green plant. The carbonaceous matter renders the soil more porous and absorbing, hence the falling rains, condensing dews and circulating air will have a chance of reaching the roots of the growing plants, all more or less loaded with nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen and oxygen the great bulk of *all* vegetable matter, and in this manner alone can the plants obtain these great elements of organic life, in a word, from air and water.

Tobacco, like cotton, is not a food forming plant, both being a weed and neither being a large consumer of nitrogen, although many consider it as such and demand an ammoniated fertilizer. Like cotton, I can say nothing about it from actual results, never having planted a stem, but will state that at my suggestions my friend Dr. W.

W. Duvall, of Prince George's county, Md., used a mixture of inorganic salts, composed principally of acid phosphate and Kainit, discarding his usual ammoniated mixture, and he informs me that he raised the largest crop of tobacco ever seen on the place, and of the best quality at a much less cost for fertilizers. I presume but few are better or more favorably known than the doctor in his county, and his word can be relied upon.

For the good results obtained from the use of this mixture, a review of their composition may help to explain the matter. The main mineral elements entering plants may be named as follows: phosphorus, potash, lime, magnesia, chlorine and sulphur. In the above mixture all these elements are found in a concentrated form, and when mixed with cotton seed cake or well rotted manure either from the stable or fermenting pits of weeds, straw, leaves, &c., all of which deposits carbon in the soil, the nitrogen having departed to parts unknown; plaster having no power to hold it. Such being the fact, it is not to be wondered that such a compound would present the missing element necessary to make a soil productive, and as we all know lime alone will put new life into a soil, and the same may be said of plaster, potash, and phosphorus, used with no companion. I have seen on my own land a thick covering of bone fail to show the least effect on grass, when a sprinkling of lime ten steps off showed marked effect.

This shows the importance of experimenting with your land before risking your money in expensive fertilizers, that no matter how good they might prove in some land might prove an utter failure on your own.

In conclusion, the reader may rest assured that to obtain a maximum crop, the physical or mechanical condition of the soil must be in trim, and when a worn-out, exhausted soil is found devoid of life, the first aim should be to put new life into it, and the quickest road is to turn under growing vegetable matter, let it be anything that will ferment or decay to form carbon, *i. e.* humus, and then find the missing mineral, and when applied, a new order of things will spring up, which, followed by proper treatment, the tax collector can be met with a smiling countenance and an invitation to dinner.

A. P. SHARP.

Rock Hall, Kent County, Md.

## HORTICULTURAL.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Keeping Squashes in Winter.

There are some of the productions of the farm that require attention in order that they may be kept for a good length of time in the winter. Among these are the squash, which occupies an important position in the culinary department. Any one who has ever feasted upon the delicious squash pie, will be glad to know of any means to keep the squash as long as possible. Every one who has had anything to do with this product of the earth, knows that there are two things that work destruction to it; these are cold and moisture. Very many squash growers have noticed in attempting to keep squashes in the cellar, especially if there was any degree of moisture, that in a very short time the exterior surface would become covered with spots of mould, and this was a sure index to speedy decay, for which there was no help. Also, if they were left out and became in the least chilled from cold, the process of decay would speedily commence.

Here, then, are two conditions that must be eliminated or else success in keeping need not be looked for. But the chilling process may be effected in the field, unless harvesting is conducted at such seasonable time as will save any trouble from that source; then the same must be provided against after harvest or else danger of loss still exists.

So before there is any danger from frost, either without or within, have the squashes gathered, and they may be placed for a few days in some sunny place to perfect the ripening. Then let them be carefully taken and placed upon shelves in the kitchen, prepared for that purpose, where is usually a high temperature, and there will be no trouble in keeping until spring. It might be suggested that there is a certain amount of moisture in every kitchen; this is very true, but the degree of heat dries it away before it has any opportunity to cause any injury to the squash.

In this way squashes have been kept without difficulty until late in spring.

In gathering squashes care should be taken that the stems are not broken off nor injured, for any loss of stem or injury

in that part results almost surely in the decay of the squash.

Neither should there be any abrasion of the surface if possible, as that might cause decay.

#### Chilling Potatoes.

In writing upon keeping squashes, allusion has been made to the effect of temperature upon some farm productions.

POTATOES—the Irish variety—are very susceptible of being affected, and are much sooner affected than some other vegetables, and more disastrously.

While the parsnip, turnip and onion will stand a good degree of frost without injury, the potato would be ruined. Hence, although the potato will stand moisture, it must be kept where the temperature does not go down to the freezing point if its germinating qualities are to be preserved. A slight frost may not affect the table qualities very essentially, but a greater degree may ruin the tuber so far as its eating is concerned. The fact that a slight degree of frost does not affect the table quality is sometimes taken advantage of as a means of destroying the germinating power of the tuber which prevents the sprouting of those held into the spring, but the practice is quite risky and could hardly be recommended.

A safe method, one which produces a similar result and which is sometimes practical for a like purpose, is to drench the tubers with water so hot that the life germ is destroyed without injuring the food value of the tube and so preserves it for a longer time and in a better condition than if allowed to commence the germination which rapidly deteriorate the quality of the potato for the table.

This condition also admits of long shipment of the product in good condition with little danger of sprouting.

*Columbia, Conn.* WM. H. YEOMANS.

#### Field Beans

We have had many enquiries of late about the culture and best kinds of field beans, and in a late issue we answered a special inquiry on the subject, but as there is evidently a growing interest about beans, we avail ourselves of what we find in the *N. Y. Tribune*, written by Mr. D. A. Bar-

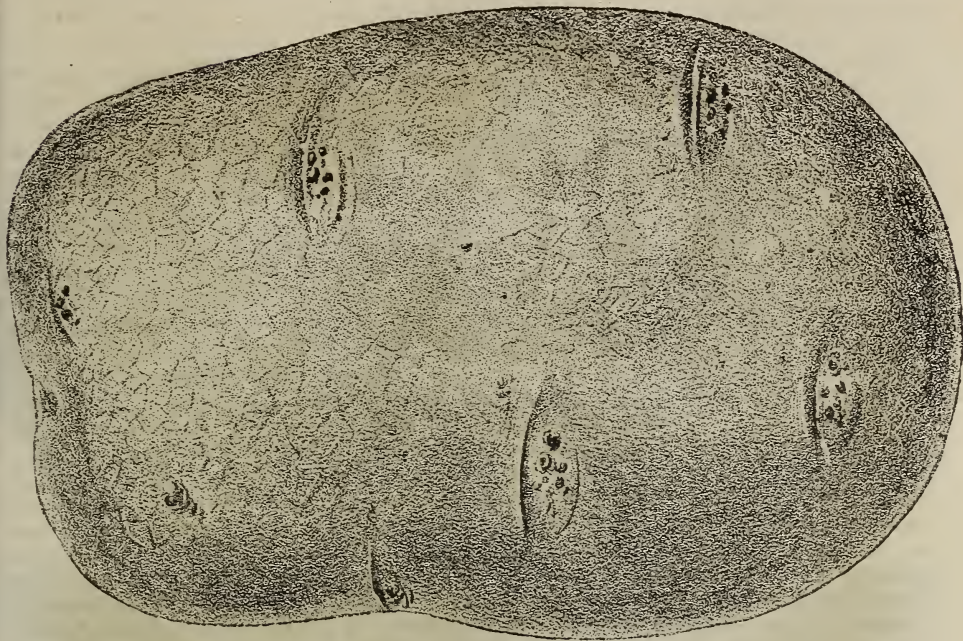
ker, who has been a successful grower of beans for thirty years. He says:

"They need just such soil as is good for wheat, barley or corn; still I have seen a fair product from clear black muck. I plowed eleven acres last June; rolled it down and ran a spring harrow over it until the top was fine; marked out the rows two feet apart each way; planted by hand June 20th with a corn planter that stabs the seed in; cultivated between the rows twice one way and once the other; no other cultivation was given, and September 16 I had them off the ground ready to run a spring drag and sow to wheat. The yield was a little over twenty bushels per acre. It is much the best to plant in rows both ways, the work then can nearly all be done with a horse; two feet each way is the right distance. One man can plant about three acres in a day; takes less seed; yield quite as well, and if pulled by hand, pull much better than in drills. But pulling is not done much by hand just now the crop is plowed out with a machine made with a wheel cultivator frame and two long steel blades, that run under two rows at once. They are then pitched together with barley forks, or raked with a wheel horserake.—The dirt does no harm when threshed out with horses, as they should be. Machine threshing breaks the stones, splits the beans, breaks the lumps of dirt into little pieces the same size as beans, so as to necessitate hand picking. The time to plant is about June 10, for the early varieties. Beans planted early enough to ripen about the middle of August will not fill well, as a rule.

"Of white varieties the large Marrow brings the highest price, as a rule, and I consider it the best white bean to eat. The objections to it are: it takes a bushel or over to plant an acre—an item at \$3 or more per bushel; it also splits in threshing, worse than any other sort, and is too late to sow wheat after; but it is a good yield-  
\* \* \* \* \*

"Three-fourths or more of all the beans raised in this region the past season were pea beans," commonly known as the Navy bean.

THE SAFEST WAY.—The safest way and the surest way to restore the youthful color of the hair is furnished by Parker's Hair Balsam, which is deservedly popular from its superior cleanliness.



O. K. MAMMOTH PROLIFIC.

"O. K. Mammoth Prolific was originated in New York State four years ago. The second year from the seed, this variety exceeded in productiveness all other varieties the originator had planted. The illustration shows their general shape. The skin is white with a yellowish cast, well covered with a rough netting, eyes few and lie even white the surface, flesh pure white with purest flavor, fine grained, always solid, cook through evenly and quickly, dry and floury but do not fall to pieces and waste. A very vigorous grower, and to a great degree resists the ravages of the bugs. The vines completely cover the hill with a dense mass of foliage, the tubers grow compactly in the hill, are readily harvested by hand or machine, and grow from medium size to very large, often weighing  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds, of perfect shape, without prongs and never hollow. Are medium early, ripening in August, and are *positively the most productive potato now grown in America.*"

[Mr. J. A. Everitt, of Watson, Pa., is known as one of the champion potato growers of America. He is a high authority on all matters pertaining to potato growing. He was the original introducer of the famous Mammoth Pearl, of which

we gave a spirited engraving a year or more ago. Mr. Everitt now brings to public notice his last production, *O. K. Mammoth Prolific*, which he claims to be superior to all varieties yet known for the general crop. See advertisement in this number.

#### Corn as a Mathematician.

Why don't we find an ear with an odd number of rows on it? It is always fourteen, or sixteen, or twenty, or some even number, and I would like to understand what corn knows about mathematics, and what objection Nature has to odd numbers.—*Ex.*

For the time and money expended on them no branch of farm industry pays better than poultry and bees. The one furnishes a delicious substitute for sugar, the other the best meat for the table.

GOOD ADVICE.—Nearly all the ills that afflict us can be prevented and cured by keeping the stomach, liver and kidneys in perfect working order. There is no medicine known that will do this as surely as Parker's Ginger Tonic. See adv



### The El Paso Potato.

The above cut is taken from an "El Paso" potato of medium size, grown last season by Mr. J. M. Stonebraker, Panola, Ill. It is said by the grower to be a true and faithful representation. The El Paso is a seedling of the Early Rose, hybridized with Early York. Propagated first by Joseph Schnebly, near the town of El Paso, Woodford County, Illinois. Mr. Stonebraker says of it.

"The El Paso is very prolific, grow large and of uniform size, has a rough skin, indicates hardness, and is floury when cooked. They have few eyes and of medium depth. They have a large quantity of starch, are rich in flavor, and it makes no difference what way they are cooked for the table, they are always palatable. Their growth is strong, vigorous from the start, with a large sprout afterwards to a similar sized stem. It might be said without much doubt, if there is any potato ever grown, that is bug-proof, the El Paso is the potato. I have planted the El Paso the last two seasons on ground beside

many other varieties, including the Peach-blows, and they always matured and made a full, large crop; while some of the other varieties were partly killed, and others entirely destroyed by the bugs."

We call attention to the advertisement in our columns of this new and rare variety.

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For the Maryland Farmer.

### Night Soil.

Upon the subject of night soil, Professor Pendleton, in his "Scientific agriculture" says: "Human excrement and urine are among the most powerful fertilizers when properly treated. Immense waste of nitrogen as well as other valuable salts, is constantly occurring in our cities and towns which might be saved and prove an immense service to the corporations. In China, every particle of human ordure is saved from every possible source, made into cakes, dried in the sun, ground and applied to crops. When we think of their population we can well perceive that without this the lands would soon be exhausted and the country depopulated by famine and pestilence."

For the process of saving and burying their excrement, not only gives them bread but purifies the atmosphere and saves them from malignant fevers. Much of this valuable manure might be prepared and saved in every family, but for a foolish prejudice among all classes of society in reference to handling and using it. By adopting the earth closet system, applying the dry earth daily, all odor is prevented and every particle of vegetable gas is secured by the absorbing power of the earth. This may be used in private bed rooms or adopted in all privies, securing at once cleanliness and health and a most valuable fertilizer."

Liebig has said that the solid and liquid evacuations from a family of eight persons was sufficient to fertilize an acre of corn, if properly accumulated and cared for.

Now making a practical application of the principal, according to the last census, Baltimore had a population of 332,313, or sufficient for the accumulation of fertilizing material sufficient for 41,539 acres of corn, which, at the moderate yield of 25 bushels per acre, would be equivalent to 1,038,975 bushels of corn. And taking the four principal cities of our country, New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn and Chicago, with a combined population of 3,123,317, there is a fertilizing material sufficient for 390,414 acres of corn, which at the average above, would give 9,760,350 bushels of grain. And taking all the cities in the United States, having a population of 30,000 or more, there is produced and largely wasted fertilizing material sufficient for 1,029,606 acres of corn, with a grain product of 25,740,150 bushels. Is it any wonder that with such an amount of fertilizing material that very largely comes from the soil, continually going to waste, there should come up the cry of a decline in agriculture? It is a matter for careful but earnest consideration, for with the tendency to concentrate in cities and villages, the matter is growing worse and worse all the time.

WILLIAM YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

[We ask attention to the above practical and thoughtful communication of our old and esteemed correspondent, who ably handles, with special reference to Baltimore, a subject which has engrossed the attention of many large cities. Could his sug-

gestion be carried out, and we see no reason why not, our fields could be enriched, the air purified and our harbor and bay would contain food for our fish and crabs, less revolting to those who philosophize, while they indulge their appetites with such delicious food.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

#### Does it Pay to Grind the Corn with the Cob?

The *Live Stock Journal* states the case so fairly and clearly and so in accordance with our own views that we make room for an extract upon the subject: "It depends upon the facilities for grinding and the kind of stock to be fed. Sheep grind corn better than cattle, and therefore they utilize the nutriment in whole corn better. The cob contains more actual nutriment than is generally supposed. It shows on analysis 42.6 per cent. of carbo-hydrates,  $\frac{1}{4}$  per per cent of albuminoids and the same of fat. It is quite safe to say that cobs have one-half the value of hay when fed with food rich in nitrogen, which it so greatly lacks \* \* \*

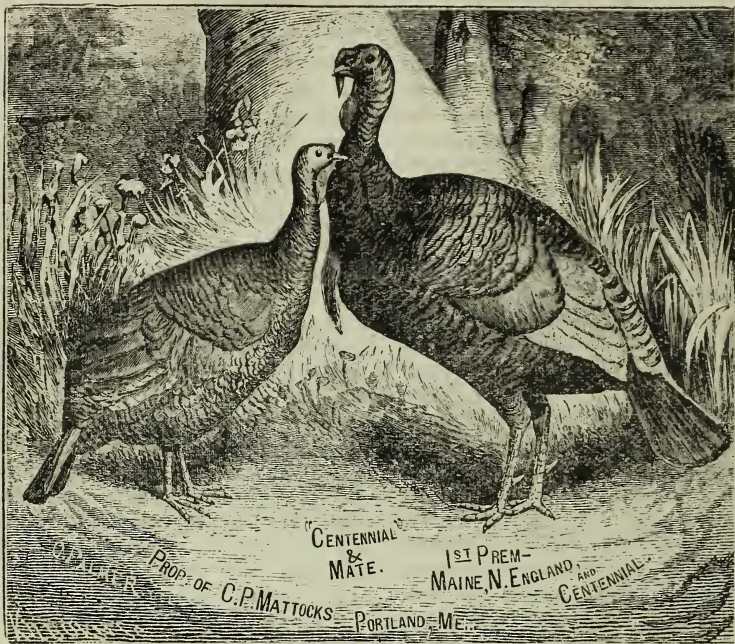
Where mills are prepared for grinding cobs, it will pay to grind in the ear, as, in addition to the nutriment in the cob, it saves shelling, and the cob, mixed with the meal, separates the particles of meal, so that it goes into the stomach in a more porous condition, the gastric juice thus penetrates it more perfectly, and the meal is digested better than when eaten alone. The writer fed five work horses upon cob meal, mixed with cut hay for several years, and their health remained excellent.

We do not wish to convey the idea that corn cobs of themselves would be worth grinding, but corn in the ear can be ground whole, as cheaply as corn can be shelled and ground; and, if the farmer is short of fodder, there can be no doubt that it is wisdom to grind cob and all."

It is our earnest intention to make the present volume of the MARYLAND FARMER more interesting than any preceding number. Our friends can do us a good turn by procuring subscribers.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES for Coughs and Colds—"The only article of the kind which has done me good service. I want nothing better."—*Rev. R. H. Craig, Otisville, N. Y.* Sold only in boxes. Price 25c.

## POULTRY HOUSE.



## Bronze Turkeys.

We publish above, a cut of a group of bronze turkeys, from the celebrated Riverside Farm, at East Baldwin, owned by General C. P. Mattocks, of Portland, Me. This group of turkeys were winners at the Maine and New England Fairs, several years ago, and at the United States Centennial, on all of which occasions they attracted great attention, not only by reason of their immense size, but wonderful plumage. The bronze turkeys are the result of a cross between the common Narragansett turkey and the wild turkey, whereby the weight of the wild turkey is fully preserved, the beauty increased, as also the richness and flavor of the poultry, when cooked. The bronze turkeys are better breeders than the native, less inclined to remain away over night. The wild instinct which they have, seems to be just sufficient to enable them to find their way to their roosting places each night.

## Embden Geese.

These beautiful aquatic birds were first introduced into this country in 1821. They were imported direct from Holland, but the appellation of Embden is said to have been obtained from the town of that name in Hanover. The eggs are white; four can be put to hatch under a large Cochin or Brahma, or a turkey hen, sprinkled with warm water, daily, as they dry up very easily, the shell being rough and thick. Incubation occupies thirty days. Goslings are reared like ducklings, but green food is an absolute necessity, and green onion tops are excellent. When fledged, goslings will find their own keep in a large orchard or field, and a few weeks' feeding on meal and wheat or oats, will, if shut up early in November, get them ready for the Christmas table. In fact, the young are very easily reared with but very little care, in almost any section of the country.

The color of these geese is invariably of the purest white, the bill, legs and feet being of a pure yellow. The feathers are of much softer texture than those of the com-

mon goose, and combined with their perfectly white color, possess qualities which command much higher prices in the market than the feathers of other geese. The breast down of the Embden goose is especially valuable. These geese are of erect carriage, very low down behind, almost touching the ground. They have been known to weigh, at eight months of age, from twelve to sixteen pounds when dressed for the table. English breeders report prize young birds as weighing up to twenty-seven pounds, while old Birmingham prize ganders have reached thirty-two and one-half pounds. Twenty pounds is a fair average weight. The flesh of the Embden goose is very different from that of our domestic variety; it does not partake of that dry character which belongs to other and more common kinds, but it is as tender and juicy, when brought to the table, as that of the wild fowl, also being less liable to shrink in the process of cooking. Epicures even assert that the flesh of the Embden goose is not inferior to that of the canvass-back duck.—*American Poultry Journal*.

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### Hints on Ducks.

Although the culture of ducks is not as pleasant or popular a pastime among poulterers as the common fowls, they are, however, as profitable to keep, if suitable facilities are at hand. A trio of good breeding ducks of either the Rowen, Aylesbury, Pekin or Cayuga, will be found very prolific, and under fair conditions and management produce seventy or more ducklings annually, provided the first brood be hatched under common hens and the ducks kept on laying until late in the season, when they can be set and permitted to hatch out broods.

Ducks should have a small yard attached to their houses, in which they should be confined at night during the laying season. If this is not done they will be apt to drop their eggs in other places and consequently will be the same as lost for all practical purposes.

As soon as the young ducklings are hatched they should be put in a commodious coop with their foster-mother, and make a pen of rough boards, set edgewise, for them. Keep a shallow dish-pan or small trough in the pen, and keep it con-

stantly supplied with clean, fresh water until they are a few weeks old. As soon as they have a little strength, a good deal of grass, cabbage, lettuce and such like may be given them with boiled potatoes, or a little scalded bran. All these things agree with ducklings, which devour the different substances they meet with, and show from their most tender age a voracity which they always retain.

Ducklings grow rapidly, are hardy after they have once fully feathered, are not expensive to keep if they have a stream or pond close by, but if not, though contrary to popular notions on the subject—they will get along very well with enough water to drink and dabble in. Ducks do not need either extensive or expensive accommodations, for a place ten or fifteen feet square and only three or four feet high will shelter quite a large flock during the breeding season. In winter, low houses under a side hill or bank, and made of slabs or rough boards battened, will serve admirably for quarters during the cold and snowy season.—*American Poultry Journal*.

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### Poultry Raising a Profitable Employment for Women.

As I have many relatives and friends who are readers of your valuable paper, I wish to give them my experience in poultry raising. Being left in destitute circumstances, with three fatherless children to support, I was driven to action.

I bought twenty-five common hens and two Plymouth Rock roosters. My hens were young and healthy and good layers, because well fed. About March 1st, my brother came to visit me and made me an incubator that held 240 eggs. Between March 1st and July 1st, I hatched five incubators full of chicks, or 968 chicks in all. I sold them when about three months old to hotels in some villages near by. My first 16 dozen chicks brought me \$100, or \$6.25 per dozen. The next sixteen dozen brought \$80, or \$5 a dozen. The next 16 dozen brought \$72, and the remaining 27 dozen that I sold brought \$81; total, \$333. I paid for feed, \$47.25, leaving me for my labor, \$285.75; and this without any capital to start with. My brother, living in Pennsylvania, made an incubator after he went home, and cleared on his chicks,

\$437. He did not raise as many chicks as I did, but he shipped his to New York and got a higher price. I was too far from the railroad to ship conveniently.

An incubator is real easy to manage and takes but little time, one hour a day being sufficient. You can hatch all the fertile eggs and hatch them early, before you can get hens to set. I have now five incubators made, and I expect to hatch 5,000 chicks next year, and I know I can clear fifty cents on each chick. I have only a small house and lot, but it takes but little room when you sell them so young. This is work that any woman, though in feeble health, can do. In fact, it is only good exercise and very profitable. I know there are thousands of poor people who would turn their attention to poultry raising, if they only knew how much money they could make at it.

Any one can get plain directions for making an incubator like mine, by sending stamps to pay postage to the C. S. Incubator Co., Newark, New Jersey. I hope that many of your readers who are out of employment, and have leisure time, will try the poultry business, and report success.

Mrs. ANNIE S. CARR.

In the *Nebraska Farmer*.

#### The Agricultural Growth of a Great State.

The State Commissioner of Georgia, Mr. Henderson, gives lately, the following statistics, showing the marvelous agricultural growth of Georgia, and contrasting the products of 1870 with those of 1882. The State shows over 200 per cent. increase in corn. 600 per cent. oats; 200 in wheat; 75 in rye; 100 in Irish potatoes; 800 in cane and sorghum; 400 in sweet potatoes, and a similar increase in the yield of other farm and garden products. In 1870, Georgia raised 473,934 bales of cotton. In 1880, the State raised 814,441 bales, nearly 100 per cent. increase in ten years, ranking as the second producing State. In 1882 the cotton production grew to 925,443 bales, the increase being accomplished with diminished acreage. The crop of 1880 was raised on 2,617,138 acres, while that of 1882 was raised on 2,355,425 acres. Horses have increased 20 per cent. mules 51 per cent., milk cows 36, other cattle 32, sheep 26, and swine 49 per cent. In 1870, Georgia had 70,000 farms; in

1880 she had 139,000. The estimated value of farm products for 1870 was \$80,000,000. In 1880 it swelled to \$125,000,000.

## THE APIARY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Comb Honey—How to Produce, Care for and Market it.

BY C. H. LAKE.

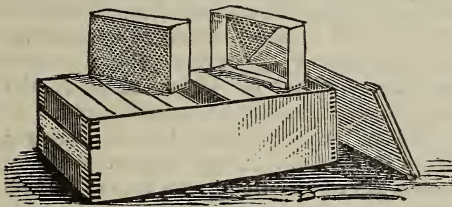
Perhaps no topic connected with bee culture—is attracting the attention of the bee keeper at the present time, as that of comb honey. Many bee keepers are putting forth views relative to their favorite methods, and as I claim to be not behind in this respect, will give you in as plain a manner as possible my method.

As early in the spring as the bees commence to carry pollen to the hives, give them a *thorough cleaning* by removing all the filth that will accumulate on the bottoms of hives during the winter. To do this properly requires an extra hive. We go to No. 1 and transfer the combs and bees into this extra hive, and place it on the stand No. 1 occupied. At the same time we cut off all the superfluous bits of comb on top and at sides of the comb, in order to give the bees free access to the top of the hive. If any combs need pruning we take this opportunity to do it. If the bees are not strong in numbers confine them by the use of the division board to only as many combs as they can well cover and tuck them up warm by confining all the heat possible to the hive. Brood rearing will be carried on much faster if thus prepared than if left to themselves, and a swarm thus cleaned will invariably give good results. Now take the hive just made empty and give it a good thorough scraping, and if need be, *washing*. If any repairing is necessary, now is the time to do it. Transfer No. 2 as before, and so continue throughout the apiary. All the poor colonies, or these not rearing but little brood will require stimulating. This is best done by feeding a syrup made of pure sugar, in which add to every 10 pounds of sugar, a tablespoonful of pure cream of Tartar, and about a gill of best New England rum to one gallon of water. A great many bee keepers will laugh at the "rum"

potion, but "the proof of the pudding is eating it," as the old sailor said that first advanced the theory to me.

If the weather is cool, this feed is best given them on top of the frames, by the use of any feeder that will not allow the escape of heat. When the weather is warm it can be fed from the entrance, just at night, and the feeders removed early in the morning, and the entrance contracted to guard against robbing. Every ten days such swarms fed will need the division board set back and an additional comb inserted, care being taken to leave the comb containing the pollen on the outside. Unless the bee keeper understands the practice of "spreading the brood," much injury will be done the swarm, but by moving back the comb containing the newly gathered pollen, and placing the new comb in its position, no harm can be done the brood. Keep up this method until the very day the honey harvest is upon you, but don't feed any more than the bees will consume, and should any be stored in the brood combs, prevent any attempt to seal it up, by applying the uncapping knife and reducing their allowance. During the winter months and early spring we make ready our boxes and sections, for the "good time coming," and by having this work all done ahead, but little time is consumed in capping up.

The box or clamp we prefer is what is known as the PERFECTION HONEY BOX, as here illustrated, and are made to fit any hive in use.



LAKE'S PERFECTION HONEY BOX.

These boxes are made by dove-tailing (so-called,) four rabbeted pieces into the sides, flush at each corner of the boxes, and cut narrow, in order to admit of an observing glass at each end, through which the progress of the bees can be noted without disturbing them, at all times.

Along the sides, one-eighth of an inch from the edge of each, a groove is cut about one-eighth of an inch deep, into

which a strip of tin or zinc is slipped. Upon this strip as many corresponding bottoms of sections is placed as we propose to work in the box. For instance— $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2$  requires the bottom piece 2 inches wide, with  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch cut out of both sides, to allow the bees to pass into the box. On these pieces stand the sections, and as there is no chance for the bees to get at them, they come out of the boxes without any difficulty and free from propolis. Each section is filled with light foundation so that it will be in the centre of section, and not touch by one-eighth of an inch at either side or bottom.

These pieces of foundation are best placed in position by the use of melted wax and rosin, and every piece thus applied will stay there, while a large number put in by machines manufactured for the purpose will be pulled down and cause trouble. A mat cut out of enameled cloth just the size of the box is placed on top—when ready to be given to the bees—and on this the cover. If the 2 inch sections are used and perfect combs are desired, combs that can be covered with glass or wood, it is essential to use some kind of separator between each section, and the best to my knowledge is a thin veneer of wood, cut just the size of the section, with a slat cut out on the top and bottom edge and well coated with gum shelac, before using. We prefer, however, to use no separator, and have abandoned them altogether in our operations, for the few imperfect combs that are occasionally built will be compensated by the increase in the honey that will be stored. Separators of all kinds hinder the bees in their work and are a nuisance, but for *fancy honey*, cannot be dispensed with. From the many years' experience I have had with this method of raising honey, the following conclusions have been arrived at. A box holding ten  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$  sections, without separators, or eight pounds of honey, were filled in the same time as seven  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ , with separator, or seven pounds of honey. An increase of nearly ten pounds, on an average, in favor of no separators, to a hive; quite an item when several hundred hives are kept.

Another important item in connection with this box is knowing *how to use it*. A few seasons ago, a well known gentleman in bee culture paid me a visit in the height

of the honey harvest and inspected many I had at work—with three, four and five tiers, of three boxes each to the tier. Being completely carried away with the sight of the precious nectar, and exclaiming—"you've hit it," he ordered several hundred of the boxes and sections for his own hives. After giving him all the information within my power as to management, he departed seeming well pleased with his visit. Last season I had occasion to visit the place in which he resided, and went to some trouble to call and see how he succeeded. "Well, friend M— how comes on the perfection box and your honey?" says I. "Perfection—" he replied, (but we will skip the hard words.) "What is the trouble?" "Trouble enough, not a— bee can I get to go into these boxes." "This don't look like it, surely," says I—advancing to a hive near by that had three extentions applied, and under which, I fully expected to see a large pile of honey. Imagine my surprise to find *fifteen* boxes piled upon that hive, and not a bee in only the lower ones, and what few there were seemed indifferent as to whether "school kept or not."

"My friend," said I, "Did I tell you to pile all these boxes upon a hive at once, and discourage your bees from breed rearing as well as honey gathering?" "Can't say as you did, but I saw as many and more on nearly all hives, and I know my bees are as good as yours." "Now here is where you have failed, you have not followed directions, but got it so fixed in your head at the sight of the honey on my hives that all these boxes were piled on and that was all—and not stopping to read, think or make further inquiry relative to the management, left the bees to themselves, and but for my coming to see you would have raised the cry again, 'poor season, no honey, bees won't work in boxes, going to quit the business,' and all sorts of clamor against bee keepers and bee men."

Upon examination of the hive in question, I found it very populous and all preparations for swarming going on—to remedy this, all the boxes were removed but one and the hive covered and left to itself. An hour later that box was *packed black with bees*, and the result this autumn, one hundred and seventy pounds of as choice honey as ever was put on the market. Now what I wish to make known right here, is

the fact when bees can't be *drove* to work, they can be *coaxed*—and this coaxing is the whole secret of obtaining box honey and keeping the bees from getting the swarming fever. Too much room is just as detrimental to the bees as not enough, and they will swarm off in many instances where a great space has suddenly been given them rather than occupy it.

[To be continued.]

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## THE DAIRY.

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For the Maryland Farmer.

### The General Demand.

#### The A B C of Butter Making.

The general demand for better butter and the rejection of a large amount similar in character to that which in the past found sale at some price, has caused a more general inquiry by the producers, as to the elements that compose butter, the principles that govern its production, and the influences which have an effect in heightening or detracting from its quality.

It is but a few years since, that milk was regarded by the masses, as a fluid of one quality that made butter, conditions being equal—of one grade—the difference being charged to the respective makers. Now it is understood that the cow governs the quality, the food influences but does not control the result. There are cheese and butter cows, good and poor food for butter making, and quite as important, there are two ways of making butter, as well as two descriptions of apparatus, valuable and worthless—either of which result in the best butter or a suspicious compound.

Taking it for granted that we have a butter cow, well fed, and that on healthful and butter stimulating foods, it may be well to inquire what butter is, and whether it is animal or vegetable fat. The first thought is, that it is animal; but a second is, that all animal life is the result of nutriment drawn from vegetable sources, so that the butter would be the oils of the grasses and grains, transformed to the milk. It is more than likely that both of these views are partially correct, and it may be well to inquire into this matter a little.

Presuming that butter is of both animal and vegetable origin, its vegetable charac-

ter is not wholly speculative, when vegetables with high flavoring oils like onions, leeks, and the like, show their presence within a short time in the milk, after having been eaten by the cow. The old theory of the total decomposition of all foods and recomposing them into vital and other fluids seems "out of joint," for the presence of these unmistakable flavors, reappearing in the milk, and unmodified, evidences that they were taken directly into the blood, carried through the blood and the proportion secreted in the udder was discharged into the milk ducts, and in due time, drawn and carried into the dairy, where their presence is not manifest alone in the fats. This being the character of volatile fats of plants, the same may be claimed for those fats known as non-volatile, that give color and other peculiarities to the butter and fats of animals.

In butter fats are several elements that cannot be found in vegetables. Butyryne and caferone are examples; so we are then to infer that these are of animal origin, as they have a special flavor and composition apart from food influences.

Competent authorities who have made a life study of this matter, like Prof. Arnold, assert that the bulk of the butter fats is derived from vegetable matter, while the lesser elements as mentioned; along with others which compose the flavor, aroma and the like, are of animal origin, and though not existing as fats, yet when brought in combination with the oils that comprise butter fat, such as glycerine, palmitine, etc., they are changed and become in appearance, at least, fats.

This is an important fact to know, and we have no reason to doubt such scientists as Arnold, Caldwell, Voelckar and others, and the fine butter of the future will be produced from butter foods, the office of the cow being to color, flavor and give texture, by the aid of well developed organs, which shall produce these needed fats, and combine with vegetable fats which shall be fed to her; in other words, to transform. Let more perfectly, our Jerseys, Shorthorns and other well known breeds into butter machines. The claims of physiologists, that fats in food can only be digested and absorbed by the blood, by the action of the liver and the other vital organs; does not have much weight with the dairymen, who is told by his chemist, and sees daily

demonstrations, though perhaps unscientifically made, that the fatty matters he feeds his cow is returned to him in the improved form of butter and not greatly dissimilar, so far as it relates to the fats themselves. He therefore feeds his cow understandingly and with profit, and the consumer of his butter is delighted. J. G.

OHIO.

#### How much Butter from a Profitable Cow.

There is a most important question, one that every dairyman should fully determine for himself before he can be said to understand his business. He should find out by careful experiment how much it costs to keep a cow a year, including both food and labor; and to this should be added 10 per cent. on the value of the cow to cover interest and decrease in value. If a cow can not be made to pay this, she cannot be said to be profitable. This knowledge goes right to the foundation of the dairyman's business. But as a general proposition, it may be said that a cow must make 200 lbs. of butter during her milking season, to afford any adequate profit. This may be considered as a meagre quality when compared to tests of some cows, whose yields are reported at 600 to 800 lbs. per year; but 200 lbs. is, nevertheless, considerably above the average of all the butter cows in the country—140 to 150 lbs. comes much nearer that general average. —*National Live-stock Journal.*

#### MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL.—

This Society has offered over three thousand dollars in prizes for the coming season, including \$1,500 for plants and flowers, \$950 for fruits, \$500 for vegetables, and \$100 for gardens and green-houses; besides which \$125 are offered for essays on shrubs and plants, green-houses, live-hedges and fertilizers. Prospective prizes for new productions, to be examined each year, are to be awarded in 1885. The Hunnewell prizes for the best estate, not less than three acres, amounting to \$400. The Society now issues a weekly report of its discussions for the benefit of its non-resident members, of which we shall furnish our readers condensed accounts on all matters of general interest.

Competition for the prizes is open to all persons. Robert Manning of Boston is secretary of the society.

# MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

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What is said of us by our Editorial Brothers.

The *Agricultural Review*, published under the auspices of the American Agricultural Association, New York city, says:—

FRIEND WHITMAN, editor of the MARYLAND FARMER, is making that model magazine more bright and indispensable at every issue. The January number, in addition to a wealth of entertaining material, contains an admirable steel engraved portrait of Hon Oden Bowie, ex-Governor of Maryland, and a farmer of high distinction, and an appreciative sketch of his public and agricultural career

The MARYLAND FARMER for February is now on our table and is well stored with useful information to the tiller of the soil. This monthly is published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore, Md., and is one of the cheapest papers published for the farmer.—*Somerset Herald*.

MARYLAND FARMER.—We have received this justly popular book for February. Every farmer stands in his own light by not subscribing for a book of this kind, when it can be had for the low price of \$1 per annum, in advance. Published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore, Md.—*Fredrick Examiner*.

The MARYLAND FARMER for February is to hand, and is in keeping with the general numbers of that sterling old publication. No farmer, gardener, stock breeder, &c., who makes any pretensions to be up in his business, can afford to be without a publication of this kind, and to all such we cheerfully recommend the "Maryland Farmer," published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore Md., at \$1 00 per year.—*Baltimore Telegram*.

The MARYLAND FARMER for February is before us. It opens with a well written article on "The Maryland and Delaware Free Ship Canal," by Ezra Whitman, the editor and proprietor. This was read before the meeting of the American Agricultural Association, held in Chicago, December 12th and continued for four days. Other articles of an interesting character occupy the remaining pages, the whole constituting quite a readable number. This is the 2d number of the 20th volume, and both by reason of age and merit the *Farmer* may now be regarded as firmly established among the planters and agriculturists.—*The Baltimorean*.

The MARYLAND FARMER for October is before us. It is a well edited, well printed magazine, published by Ezra Whitman, Baltimore, Maryland. It thoroughly fills the wants of the farmer and stock grower, and contains invaluable information for the dairy, fruit and stock farm. No investments would prove as paying for a farmer as those involved in subscriptions to reliable, standard agricultural works like the MARYLAND FARMER.—*The Denver Evening World*

### The New England Society.

The annual meeting of the New England Agricultural Society was held in the office on Milk street, Tuesday forenoon, and was largely attended. Ex-Governor Hyde, of Connecticut, occupied the chair. The annual reports were then read, that of the treasurer showing that the balance on hand last year was \$4090.99, and this year after paying all expenses, the amount on hand is \$4796.97.

After a brief address from Mr. Hyde, the Hon. Paul H. Chadbourne, president of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, spoke upon the education of farmers' sons. For forty years he had found that the farmer who would not give a cent to educate a son on the farm, would even go so far as to mortgage his property to give him a skilled trade or a profession. One-half the money spent on farms he considered was wasted for want of useful knowledge, and the sons ought to be taught that agriculture was equal to the professions in the thought required to carry it on.

They had just established in Massachusetts an experiment station, for which had been voted \$5000 a year, or about eleven cents per annum for each farm. The New England Agricultural Society and every club will be able to have difficult questions settled there. There was at this time a bill before Congress, to give all such institutions in each State \$15,000 per annum, and he asked for their support in its behalf, for experiment stations would be of infinite value.

On motion of Mr. Goodel, of New Hampshire, who said that such an address delivered in every town in New England, would be worth millions to the farmers, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to President Chadbourne. On motion of Mr. Ware, of Marblehead, it was voted the society memorialize Congress in favor of the bill now before it, for the appropriation of

\$15,000 for every State, for agricultural purposes, and that New England congressmen be requested to support the bill.

The passage of the above bill would be of as great importance to the farmers of Maryland as to the other States, and we hope to see our Congressmen give it their earnest support.

### Pleuro-Pneumonia.

We had a pleasant call from Mr. Perry, a correspondent of the *Breeders' Gazette*, and the *Chicago Tribune*, who is visiting Mr. W. F. Whitridge, of Balto. County. We found him thoroughly posted in all live stock matters and was glad to learn from him that he had visited several of the prominent breeders in our vicinity, and was satisfied the reports of pleuro-pneumonia had been greatly exaggerated. Upon his return we find his report in the columns of the "*Chicago Tribune*," which says:

"If there is, on this continent, a single county which contains as many cattle of highest breeding and of as great performances at the pail or in the show ring, as are now in Baltimore county, Maryland, its name has not been made known to the public. Men of great wealth have undertaken the work of building up herds of Jerseys, of Aberdeen-Angus, and of other cattle which shall not have their equals in America. They have not hesitated to spend money lavishly, when by so doing they could secure animals of great value. Without reference to date which might considerably enlarge the list, one may count in the suburbs of Baltimore city, seventeen herds of Jerseys, in which are 264 females of great value, and costly herds of Guernseys, Ayrshires, Dutch-Friesians, Aberdeen-Angus and Herefords. Owners of these herds ask if it is reasonable to suppose that they would permit, without protest, the continuance of a condition of affairs which would

constantly threaten these herds with extermination.

"In 1880, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Maryland, "to prevent the spread of infectious or contagious pleuropneumonia among the cattle of this State." This act makes it the duty of the Governor to take measures to promptly suppress the disease and prevent it from spreading. It gives him power to quarantine, slaughter, or destroy animals known or suspected to be afflicted with the disease, but it makes no appropriation for the purpose of paying part or all of the value of animals so slaughtered. But when animals are slaughtered, a record of the fairly appraised value will be kept, and the next ensuing General Assembly will make payment for same.

"It is believed that the act of 1880 will meet the requirements of the case, provided an appropriation sufficient to pay promptly the fairly appraised value of the animals and other property it may be necessary to destroy. That such an appropriation will be made by the Assembly next winter, Maryland breeders have not the slightest doubt."

**SALES OF STOCK.**—Dr. F. W. Patterson, of Baltimore county, Md., has sold a Dutch Friesian b. c. 3 months old, imported in dam, one of the Doctor's last importation at \$150, to W. L. Hemmingway, of Miss.

Mr. Andrew Banks, of Reisterstown, Baltimore county, has sold a Jersey calf six weeks old, from the celebrated cow Silverthorn, to a gentleman in Columbia, S. C., for \$400. Mr. Banks, at a recent sale in Philadelphia by Harkness & Co., bought a fine cow, "Rollo's Flower," for which he paid \$830. A calf from this cow sold at the same sale for \$850, to A. B. Darling, of New York.

Mr. F. Carroll Goldsborough, of Talbot county, Md., has purchased of Mr. T. S. Cooper, of Coopersburg, Pa., his entire recent importation of Oxford-Down sheep, about forty head, the price being reported at \$2,500.

#### Polled Cattle for America.

Mr. Macpherson Campbell, acting for Mr. W. H. Whitridge, of Baltimore, Md., has concluded an important purchase of Erica and Pride heifers, from the Ballendalloch herd. One is the two year old "Ethylene" 4674, by Justice 1492, from Erdine 3372, g. dam "Eva" 984, now the matron of the Ericas at Ballendalloch.—Having two Jilt crosses, this heifer is very fashionably bred. The other heifer is "Katinka" 4669; she was due to calve on 5th of February. Mr. Whitridge has already the foundation of a good herd, consisting of six heifers and a bull sent him last summer by Mr. Campbell, and was determined not to be stopped by price from adding to it a representative, and a good one, of each of the two leading families of Polled Aberdeen or Angus cattle. We have no doubt that these heifers will with good fortune be heard of again in America.

MR. EDWARD STABLER, although in his 89th year, was on the 1st of January elected President of the Montgomery County Fire Insurance Company, for the 35th consecutive year. He is the oldest postmaster in the United States, his commission dating back to President Jackson's administration in 1830. Mr. S. is a well-known agriculturist and able writer upon agriculture.—"May his shadow never be less!" and tho' his years are many, such are his temperate habits, quiet disposition and remarkable health we may confidently predict, as we sincerely wish, that his days may yet be long and happy in the land.

**HEAVY YIELD OF TOBACCO.**—Mr. Frank B. Macatee, of Pylesville, raised a fine crop of dark Glesner tobacco, last year. He is now engaged in stripping it. The yield on ten acres is estimated at fully 18,000 lbs., or 1,800 lbs. to the acre. Mr. Macatee was also extensively engaged in the canning business, last season, with Mr. Henry Macatee.—*Ægis, Bel Air, Md.*

## LIVE STOCK REGISTER:



Jersey Bull, Lord Bacon, No. 4334, A. J. C. C. H. B., owned by Samuel C. Kent, Avon Stock Farm, West Grove, Chester County, Pa.

THIS fine animal whose portrait we give will be found fully described in the following article from our esteemed special correspondent.

## Herds of Messrs. Kent & Harvey, of Pennsylvania.

*By our Special Correspondent.*

On our way to the Herkness sale of Jerseys, of which we gave a full account in our last. We got off at Perryville and took the Baltimore Central Railroad, in order to stop off at West Grove, Chester Co., Pa. The name of this road would suggest that it was an important feeder to Baltimore, but we think we are safe in saying a majority of the people of Baltimore never heard of it, and although it runs through a beautiful section of country that should be tributary to Baltimore, but little of its freight and less of its passengers find their way thither. This is readily understood from a study of the time table, which shows quite a number of trains to Philadelphia and away from Baltimore, and but one connection a day for Baltimore.

Our objective point at West Grove was to examine the fine herd of Guernsey as well as Jersey cattle of Mr. Samuel C. Kent. Mr. Kent has been an extensive importer as well as breeder of both Guernseys and Jerseys for some years. And his herd of Guernseys kept at 3 farms with those of his near neighbor, Thomas M. Harvey, really constitutes the most extensive market for Guernseys in this county. The demand may be understood when we say we went to buy, and although Mr. Kent has near 70 females, as breeders, and Mr. Harvey about 50, they had absolutely nothing for sale. All sold—was the cry. Mr. Kent is using bulls Jeweller and Radley, son and grand-son of imported Champion, probably the best Guernsey bull ever owned in this country. These bulls have the richest skins and horns; with those immense curve line escutcheons for which the Guernsey is noted, and show in every way that they are carefully and intelligently bred. The Guernsey cow, while a very large butter maker, and not excelled in quantity by any breed except, probably, the Jersey—has no equal for quality, when color, consistency and the flavor of the butter is considered. They are coming rapidly into favor in the vicinity of those cities where 75 cents and one dollar per pound is not an exceptional price for choice butter. But their chief advantage over

other breeds is in the power to make a high colored article, with the real June grass tint, all the year through.

We found in the herds of Mr. Kent and Mr. Harvey, some of the finest of this breed to be found in the country. At Mr. Harvey's, who has been the maker of a fine article of butter for many years—not only the cows, but all the stable and dairy appliances were of the most approved kind and showing that thrift and careful attention to all the details of the business, which in any profession always brings success. Mr. Kent does not make butter, but sells his cream. Mr. Harvey is the owner of old Sir Champion, the noted bull mentioned above, but he has grown too old for service and Mr. Harvey is now using a fine imported bull called—Amber.

Of the Jerseys at Mr. Kent's we have to speak in the highest terms. During a number of years in which he has been engaged in importing, he has carefully selected some of the best and retained them in his own herd, so that he has now about 50 head of as fine cows as can be found, showing large capacity, especially in the storage department. Cows, to make great yields, must not only have good digestive apparatus, but must have the capacity to bring from the pasture a large quantity of food to be chewed over and assimilated during the night. This is a feature too often overlooked, and we have seen cows built like herrings after the run of the season. The Jersey herd of Mr. Kent is headed by the bull LORD BACON; imported, and whose picture is herewith sent for your columns. It is not difficult to see from this picture, which however, scarcely does him justice, that Lord Bacon is a noble specimen of his breed and well worthy to head such a herd. He is fine in carcass fine in bone, broad thin hips, with good twist, good head and horns and a noble carriage. Mr. Kent thinking that he has a broader field and fewer competitors in the breeding of Guernseys. Talks something of selling out his Jerseys and devoting his sole attention to the Guernseys. If he does there will be a fine opportunity for investment by some of our Jersey breeders.

What a noble pastime the breeding of such cattle must be. Mr. Kent, some years ago retired (on account of ill health,) from active business and moved to his farm.

Now, without much labor or care, he has around him a fine herd of cattle to furnish him pleasurable recreation as well as great profit, and in view of these facts and of the further facts that are apparent to all observers, that the day of 'general purpose' farming is over, and the farmer of the future, if he hopes to succeed, must be a specialist, and if using dairy cows, will want "special purpose" cows, *i. e.*, if butter be his object, cows that will make the largest quantity of the best quality, for a given amount of attention, and that the improved breeds of stock of all kinds must come more into demand than at present. We cannot see why more of our gentleman farmers do not embark in the rearing of fine bred cattle, which is certainly enjoyable pastime and as certain to become profitable. It is not fancy farming, and the experience of all who have tried it intelligently is, that it is more profitable than any other branch of farming.

### The Original Home of the Horse.

There is no doubt that the original home of the horse is not in Europe, but Central Asia; for since the horse in its natural state depends upon grass for its nourishment and fleetness for its weapon, it could not in the beginning have thriven and multiplied in the thick, forest grown territory of Europe. Much rather should its place of propagation be sought in those steppes where it still roams about in a wild state. Here, too, arose the first nation of riders, of which we have historic knowledge, the Mongolians and the Turks whose existence even at this day is, as it were, combined with that of the horse. From these regions the horse spread in all directions, especially in the steppes of Southern and South-eastern Russia and into Thrace, until it finally found entrance into the other parts of Europe, but not till *after the immigration of the people*. This assumption is at least strongly favored by the fact that the farther a district of Europe is from those Asiatic steppes, *i. e.*, the original home of the horse, the later does the tamed horse seem to have made its historic appearance in it. The supposition is further confirmed by the fact that horse racing among almost every tribe appears as an art derived from neighboring tribe in the East and North-east. Even in Homer, the ox appears ex-

clusively as the draught animal in land operations at home and in the field, while the horse was used for purposes of war only. Its employment in military operations was determined by swiftness alone. That the value of the horse must originally have depended on its fleetness, can easily be inferred from the name which is repeated in all the branches of the Indo-European language, and signifies nearly "hastening," "quick." The same fact is exemplified by the descriptions of the oldest poets, who next to its courage, speak most of its swiftness.—From "The Introduction of Domestic Animals," in *Popular Science Monthly* for June.

### Annual Meeting of the Stock Breeders Association—Election of Officers.

We were much gratified in being present at the meeting of the Stock Breeders of Maryland, and give a full report herewith of their interesting proceedings.

The second annual meeting of the Maryland Live Stock Breeders Association, was held at the Carrollton hotel, in this city, on the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 14th.

The attendance was large, and the interest shown in the proceedings shows the Association to be a live one and capable of doing much good. The material of which this Association is composed is of the best of our agriculturists and business men combined—men who know what they want and how to get it.

The coming together with one common purpose of the merchant, manufactural and professional men, amateur farmers, as well as the practical every-day farmer, is calculated to do good, outside of their common purpose of stock breeding. The papers read, while confined to the special purpose of stock breeding and usually by members of the Association, are carefully prepared and worth the attention of all. These meetings are open to visitors and we noticed several non-members at the last.

The report of the President shows the Association to be in a flourishing condition with 60 members, divided among a major-

ity of the counties, which, considering the youth of the Association, and the fact that there are so few persons in Maryland engaged in breeding *improved live-stock*, the test of membership, is certainly encouraging. The report speaks of the work of the Association in the matter of stamping out pleuro-pneumonia, and that they have recently been informed from official sources that there is not an active case of this dreadful disease in the State. If the Association should stop here, it would richly repay all that has been done in its behalf, but, on the contrary, the Association has really just begun its labors, and is a power which must make itself felt.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of the old board, John G. Clarke, President; John E. Phillips, Vice-President; F. vonKopff, Cor. Secretary; T. Alex. Seth, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. Directors, Alex. M. Fulford, G. S. Watts, J. F. McMullen, E. B. Emory, and W. H. Whitridge.

The Association passed a resolution authorizing the board to make appropriations for special premiums for live stock at the coming State Fair, and otherwise showed great interest in making such Fair a success, and it is to be hoped they will be met half way by the Fair managers, and that we may next fall have a show that will be worthy of the State.

Mr. Alex. M. Fulford, of Harford county, whose success as a swine breeder makes his utterances on this topic worthy of attention, read a most interesting paper on the economic advantages of breeding improved swine. The points of this paper are so clearly and forcible put, and its subject matter of so much importance (as the raising of improved stock is too commonly looked upon by our farmers as fancy farming) that we will give the paper in full in our next issue.

WHAT is the great cry from ocean to ocean?  
Kendall's Spavin Cure. Read advertisement.

#### The Convention of Agriculturists.

This convention, called by Hon. G. B. Loring, Commissioner of Agriculture, January 22nd, 1883, met and continued in session a week. The results are tersely summed up by the *Rural Register*, of Petersburg, as follows:

Whilst the convention would not throw the weight of its influence in directions to awaken difficulties, the preponderance of argument and statistical facts decided many things: The best beef producing breed of cattle to be the Short-horn; the best for butter, the Channel Island breed; the greatest flow of milk, the Dutch and Scotch breeds, &c.

The best mode of feeding for large herds and wide acreage, corn and fodder in open fields; on small farms, stall feeding with frequent change of food.

The best breed of sheep for mutton, the South-Downs; for wool, the Cotswolds.

Our modes of cultivating wheat, corn, etc., much that was interesting was elicited by protracted discussion. The convention was a grand success in every particular, and Dr. Loring did the country at large a great service in his calling together these leading agriculturists."

THANKS to Messrs. Johnson & Stokes, 1114 Market street, Philadelphia, for their "Special Introduction Box" of choice vegetable seeds, &c.

D. M. FERRY & Co., Detroit, Mich.—The advertisement of this celebrated seed house should have appeared in January and February numbers, but by accident was omitted which we very much regret. The advertisement will now be found in the columns of this number. They are said to do the largest business in their trade in the United States, reaching even across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Their seeds have become known over the entire civilized world and have gained for them an enviable reputation. Their annual seed catalogue just issued for 1883, replete with information and beautifully illustrated, will be sent free on application.

### Farmers in Council.

A meeting of farmers and others engaged in different branches of agricultural pursuit was held in the court-house at Towson town, February 22nd.

Col. Franklin said that Col. Wm. Allen, who was expected to preside, was absent because of sickness. He opened the proceedings by introducing Mr. Henry C. Hallowell, of Montgomery county.

Mr. Hallowell said Montgomery county, as he knew it in the early days, was the synonym of poverty and desolation. Land was of no value then, and our roads could be run at pleasure. Sand and sedge and pine barrens were everywhere. My venerable father used to say that we were free of tramps because such people had not courage to venture among us. In 1845, on a farm of 200 acres, our hay crop was 16 tons, last year 75; wheat 41 bushels, last year 1,000; corn 70, last year 1,400. He illustrated by statistics to show the almost wonderful improvement in Montgomery agriculture since those early days. In 1844 my father organized a farmers' club with 12 members. Last year my own farm produced as much as the aggregated crops of the 12 farmers in 1844. Last year in our district 60 new dwellings and many new barns were built. Land that at one time sold at \$2.05 an acre, if now in the market, would bring \$80. \* \* \*

Dr. M. G. Elzey, made an address on the "Digestion of Animals." He gave, as he explained, a bird's-eye view of the processes of digestion, which were illustrated by chemical examples.

Mr. C. Lyon Rogers offered resolutions urging the establishment and permanent endowment of an experimental station in Maryland by the Legislature, with a committee to further the objects, to be named hereafter. Dr. G. M. Bosley seconded the resolutions and favored Pikesville arsenal Baltimore county, owned by the State, as a proper site. Mr. Thos. B. Todd offered a resolution to the same effect, and said the arsenal property would be of more use to farmers than it would be if given for private purposes, or to some charitable institution of doubtful utility. The resolutions were adopted.

Mr. W. F. Massey, of Baltimore county, read a paper on "Farm Gardening or Vegetable Crops in Farm Rotation." Western

and Northern growers land thousands of bushels of potatoes in Baltimore, under our noses, and sell them at a profit. This should be a money-making crop in Maryland.

Mr. Francis Sanderson, Baltimore Co., read a paper on "The Application of Manure." He said practical experiments in farming are better than if worked out by some high-priced scientific institution.

A discussion on ensilage brought out statements from Mr. C. Lyon Rogers, Mr. Thos. B. Todd, and others, that it is a success in Baltimore County.

### Fourth Annual Meeting of the American Agricultural Association.

The fourth annual meeting of the American Agricultural Association was held on the 7th of February, at the Grand Central Hotel, New York city. President N. T. Sprague called the meeting of the Association to order, and addressed those present as follows:

"*Gentlemen*—During the past year two very successful conventions have been held, one in New York, in February, and one in Chicago, in December. Both were attended by representative men in agriculture and kindred pursuits from all sections of the country, and the deliberations, addresses and papers were of great value. \* \* \*

"Committees were selected to agitate the subject in their respective States and to inquire into the facilities, grounds, buildings and inducements likely to be offered for the exposition. Judge J. F. Kinney, of Nebraska, representing the Committee on Exhibitions, is working earnestly and industriously for the success of this undertaking. Hon. J. C. Stevens, of Ohio, is doing all that he can in his State. Mr. J. L. Ferguson of St. Louis, is doing his utmost to interest the people of his city, and the Hon. Ezra Whitman of Maryland presses the claims of Baltimore as the proper point to be selected for such purpose. The success of such an exposition would prove a great and decisive benefit to the cause of agriculture and the live stock interests of America, and it is to be hoped that the committee to whom this work has been intrusted will not falter in their work, but will push the matter to a successful issue."

The Committee on nominations reported the following for officers for the ensuing year, and they were unanimously elected.

N. T. Sprague, Vermont, President.

Henry E. Alvord, New York, Senior Vice President.

Jos. H. Reall, 32 Park Row, New York, Secretary and Treasurer.

*Trustees.*—C. W. Mills, New Jersey; C. E. Simmons, Illinois; M. Folsom, N. Y.; Theo. A. Havemeyer, New York; D. H. Burrell, New York.

*Directors.*—Seventeen were appointed, among whom we find the name of A. M. Fulford, of Maryland.

*Vice-Presidents.*—One for each State in the Union. E. Whitman, of the MARYLAND FARMER was elected for Maryland.

Mr. Moulton offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

*Resolved*, That the Committee on Exhibitions, when appointed, be instructed to make the necessary arrangements for a national exposition of agricultural products, machinery, implements and live stock, to be held during the year, at such place as shall offer the best inducements and facilities.

It was resolved by all the members present, that the Association and its journal, the *Agricultural Review*, were eminently entitled to the support of the farmers of the United States, and that each would exert his best endeavors to promote the interests and welfare of both, by securing as many new ones as possible.

The meeting then adjourned, after a most pleasant and profitable session.

**COTTON SEED MEAL.**—The fact that the graziers of England expend nearly \$7,000,000 annually for cotton seed meal shows the high appreciation in which this product is held. The advantages of using this meal to secure the quick and satisfactory ripening of animals fattening for market cannot be disputed. If English farmers can afford to invest so lavishly in cotton seed meal, American farmers who can buy it cheaper should find it highly profitable.

“Dr. Benson’s Skin Cure eradicated my pimples; they used to break out continually.”—Steve T. Harrison, Rochester, N. Y.

## Maryland Agricultural College.

A meeting of the trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College was held on the 14th ult., at Barnum’s Hotel, which was the third one held for the election of a President, without reaching a result, since the resignation of Captain Parker. Those present being, Governor Hamilton, Treasurer Compton, Comptroller Keating, President of Senate Williams, Speaker Keilholtz, Col. J. Carroll Walsh, Hon. Wilmot Johnson, Allen Dodge, F. Carroll Goldsborough and Ezra Whitman. After several ballots the meeting adjourned to meet at the college on the 9th of March, 1883.

In our opinion, in addition to other qualifications, no person should assume the grave responsibilities involved in such an undertaking who has not made up his mind to *write, talk*, and if need be, *speak* in vindication of the college, visiting for this purpose every section of the State and explaining, not only the objects and beneficial aims of that institution, but likewise showing how, by persistent misrepresentation and unjust criticism for years past, it has been deprived of that public sympathy and co-operation to which it was entitled, and which were essential to its proper development and usefulness. For certain it is, no one of the institutions fostered by the State has been so much misunderstood and so industriously misrepresented as the Agricultural College, and it is about time it should place itself in a position to secure that just consideration from the public which it deserves.

Any fair minded man who will take the trouble to trace the history of the college, cannot but observe that while it has enjoyed the confidence and friendship of many of the most trusted and honored citizens of the State, who were willing to contribute freely of their time and means to promote its welfare, yet, it has had to encounter unnecessary and determined opposition from others which could not but tend to largely and seriously counteract the aid extended to it by the State, in creating distrust and dissatisfaction. If those who antagonize themselves to the college had instead, given to it as liberally of their time, means and active support as those who were entrusted with its management, how different would be its condition to-day! Its life currents would be flowing in healthy, vigorous action, and the college would doubtless be

known far and wide as a prosperous and useful educational agency for our great agricultural industry—taking rank as the peer of those in other States that are working usefully and satisfactorily.

It is not too late to repair the wrong inflicted, and if those who have been heretofore unfriendly to the college will join their cordial and earnest support to that of its friends, the near future will develop great results to that institution.

All the States are moving in the direction of agricultural college aid, and those which have for years withheld adequate aid to their agricultural colleges, are now providing generous support. Maine has lately passed a bill appropriating \$13,000 to the State college, and Massachusetts is increasing its endowment, while Iowa, Michigan and Kansas are rejoicing over the beneficial results which their liberal support had enabled their colleges to accomplish.

Alabama has recently appropriated thirty thousand dollars to her agricultural college, and a bill is now before Congress with favorable prospects of passing, which provides that the National Government shall endow each agricultural college with fifteen thousand dollars for the establishment of an "Experimental Station."

It is apparent, then, that with the earnest and active co-operation of all good citizens, the college has a bright prospect ahead, and that too, in a short time. Let us all work together in the interest of the college and try how much we can do for it, instead of how many impediments we can throw in its way. W.

DEVONS.—Devon stock are being again introduced into Harford Co., by Mr. Harry Wilson, of Bel Air, who recently bought from Dillard & Graves, of Orange Co., Va. We learn from the *Ægis* that the last herd of Devons in that county was owned by the late E. Stanley Rogers, of the Rocks of Deer Creek.

Dr. C. W. Benson's Celery and Chamomile Pills are prepared expressly to cure, and will cure Headache of all kinds, Neuralgia, Nervousness, and Dyspepsia. Proved and endorsed by physicians.

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### Chats with the Ladies for March.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

March!—A cloudy stream is flowing,  
And a hard steel blast is blowing;  
Bitterer now than I remember  
Ever to have felt or seen  
In the depths of drear December,  
When the white doth hide the green.

—[Barry Cornwall.

The stormy March has come at last,  
With wind and cloud and changing skies;  
I hear the rushing of the blast  
That through the stormy valley flies.  
Ah! passing few are they who speak,  
Wild, stormy month in praise of thee—  
Yet, though thy winds are loud and bleak,  
Thou art a welcome month to me.  
For thou to northern lands, again  
The glad and glorious sun dost bring,  
And thou hast joined the gentle train  
And wear'st the gentle name of Spring.

—[William Cullen Bryant.

While we dwell upon the truth and beauty of the pictures of this stormy month of March, as depicted in the word paintings of two grand poets, we can moralize some upon what is our relative duty one to another to conduce to each other's happiness, and look with confidence through the sometimes gloom and storms of life to the coming of "ethereal" Spring, with all its mild assurance of a glorious future summer, in all its fullness of a happy fruition, and to the wife peculiarly belongs the ability in a great measure to secure the summer blessings of conjugal life. Pardon me, if instead of my own, I call your attention to the thoughts of another which I have picked up in the course of my vagarious readings.

"What a blessing to a household is a merry, cheerful woman, one whose spirits are not affected by wet days, or little disappointments, or whose milk of human kindness does not sour in the sunshine of prosperity! Such a woman, in the darkest hours, brightens the house like a little piece of sunshiny weather. The magnetism of her smiles, and the electrical brightness of her looks and movements infect every one. The children go to school with the sense of something great to be achieved; her husband goes into the world in a conqueror's spirit. No matter how people annoy and worry him all day, far off her presence shines, and he whispers to himself, "At home I shall find rest." So day after day she literally renews his strength and energy, and if you know a man with a beaming face, a kind heart and a prosperous business, in nine cases out of ten you will find he has a wife of this kind."

THE following prettily written essay on the violet we have secured for our Ladies' Department, and hope to have it followed by others from the same gifted authoress. This paper was read at Freehold, N. J., at the meeting of the New Jersey Horticultural Society, which met there on the 9th of January last, and its reading was so favorably received that it called forth a vote of thanks by acclamation. We would suggest that the good lady should boldly test the virtues of the flower according to the directions of the angelic visitor during her dream. We believe in dreams and revelations of some sorts. Men may laugh, but "coming events cast their shadows before them," is part of our philosophy.

#### VIOLET.

With so many beautiful flowers to talk about, I have been at a loss which to select. Besides, I know I can tell nothing new to such florists as are members of this Society. Still the same old story is often acceptable when it is about something we love.

Violets, with their cousins, the pansies, have attracted attention from the earliest of floral times and are still favorites. We find them in the woods hiding their purple heads beneath their heart shaped leaves, with only a glimpse of color betraying their hiding places; like eyes that we love peeping out from under drooping lids. We greet them with delight because they usher in the spring. "There is a daintiness about these early flowers that touches one like poetry." Wood violets are generally purple or deep blue, and occasionally, a pure white.

Shakespeare says:—

'Tis folly—to paint the Lily,  
Or throw a perfume on the Violet.

But to fully appreciate this, one must be acquainted with the violets of his native land. The "sweet scented violet" is found in every part of Europe, in woods, among bushes, in hedges, or on warm banks. A single flower will perfume a large room, and for exquisite odor, even the Queen of flowers, the rose, must yield the palm to the modest violet.

They like a sandy soil and a little shade. Some thrive best in moist situations. They commence to bloom in April, and continue through May, and are hardy perennials. The capabilities that flowers develop by culture, seem almost without limit. What the florist may yet do with the violet we cannot determine. They have already made it double its petals, till it seems trying to make a little blue rose of itself.

Then that desirable quality which is so much sought after in flowers—ever-blooming—has been attained in the violet, for we have varieties that bloom all through the months. The *Schœnbrunn*

is a single monthly, and we have also a double monthly. *Viola cornuta* is a pretty species, with numerous pale blue flowers which are produced nearly all summer. This flower flourishes in any garden soil, and is used in Europe for ribbon planting. The pure white flowers of our own *Viola pedata alba* are almost in perpetual bloom. Then what has not been done with the *Viola tri-color*, or the Pansy? *Viola Grandiflora* the florists call it.

It was a little gem in its native forests in Sweden, and in Japan, but think of the variety of coloring and variegation found in our collection of pansies to-day. From a pure white to a jet black, with purple, blue, yellow, red and brown shades, plain, striped and spotted, and all so beautiful that we cannot tell which to admire most. An uncultivated *Viola tri-color* is found in Colorado that seems ambitious to be a national flower, being dressed in red, white and blue, but it does not compare in beauty with its cultivated sister—

"Whose mantle is the purple rolled  
At twilight, in the west afar—  
'Tis tied with threads of dawning gold,  
And buttoned with a sparkling star."

The largest flowers are those that bloom first on young plants. Some of these have been known to measure two and one-half inches in length, and two inches across the upper petals.

Breck says—"Pansies grow readily and spread widely, exhausting the soil. In order to have fine plants it is necessary frequently to renew the plants." They thrive best in well manured loam, in a cool and shady place.

They are commonly raised from seed, but when it is desired to perpetuate a choice variety, it is better to take cuttings or to layer the plant. To be successful this must be done in May or June, or in September, because in summer, the shoots become hollow and pithy, and will either not strike at all, or will produce unhealthy plants.

The roots of several species of violet were formerly used in medicine. They contain a bitter alkaloid, *violine*, which acts as an emetic and purgative. The petals of the sweet scented violet are used for the preparation of Syrup of Violets, which is used as a gentle purgative for children, and also as a chemical test, being reddened by acids and rendered green by alkalies. The bruised leaves of the pansy, *Viola tri-color*, are sometimes used as a remedy for ringworm.

These medicinal properties were interesting to me, because, when I was a young girl, I had a dream about the pansy which I have never forgotten. I thought an angel brought a pansy and planted it close to the doorstep of my home. Looking up, I saw another angel with a wreath of pansies, who told me if I would boil the wreath and drink the water I would recover my health. As I have been an invalid for many years, this dream has often recurred to me, but not knowing the medical qualities of the pansy, I was afraid to experiment for fear I might be poisoned.

Mrs. J. D. MEECH.

WHY WELCOME.—What makes Floreston Cologne welcome on every lady's toilet table is its lasting fragrance and rich, flowery odor.

## Publications Received.

From ORANGE JUDD COMPANY, 751 Broadway, N. Y., a well written and printed little book of over 200 pages, entitled "Colorado, as an Agricultural State. By William E. Pabor.—Price \$1.50. This book gives an interesting and full description of the topography and also the adaptability of climate and soil of the State to fruit growing and stock raising. It is indispensable to every one who contemplates settling in Colorado.

GARDENING FOR YOUNG AND OLD.—By Joseph Harris—price \$1.25. The Orange Judd Co. also send us this practical and useful little book, well illustrated and gotten up in their usual elegant style. The author is well known by his extensive writings, which have always been pleasing to the public. This work will be found of great value to both old and young who are engaged in gardening either upon a large or small scale. We had thought that Peter Henderson's work on "Gardening for Profit," had exhausted the subject, until Mr. Harris now enters the field with all the garnered information about new methods, which have been tested through the crucible of his practical experience. We heartily commend it to all our readers.

ORANGE CULTURE.—By Rev. T. W. Moore, price \$1.00; published by E. R. Pelton & Co., 25 Bond St., N. Y. This handsome little book is well written and very instructive to orange growers in all the lower South and California. It shows the great value of cultivating oranges and other tropical fruits in those climates, and many other matters that are important to such cultivators. It must prove of great value to all who are, or intend to be engaged in the culture of the luscious orange and other kindred fruits.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE for 1881 and '82.—This valuable document from the National Printing Office, will be received by every farmer as a treasured gift from his representative in Congress and be welcomed by all as a strong evidence of the zeal and industry of Dr. Loring, the present able Commissioner, in bringing up to date the results of the work of the Department for public examination, instead of letting the reports linger for two years after the result of its labors had been ascertained, as has heretofore been the practice of this Department intended to be for the frequent and speedy enlightenment of the farming community.

## Journalistic.

THE LIVE STOCK MONTHLY.—A new Journal started the first of the year, in Portland, Maine, and we welcome it among our exchanges with pleasure. If its first issue is any evidence from which we can judge of its future, we must say it will be a welcome visitor monthly to every stock grower who may be fortunate enough to subscribe for it. It is full of varied information and profusely illustrated with excellent cuts of horses, sheep and other domestic animals.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, at Washington, D. C., has lately been enlarged from 48 to 56 columns and much improved in both matter and letter press. It is full of interesting history and reminiscences of the late unhappy war, among some of the best are those written by our old friend, Genl. Horace Capron.

## Catalogues Received.

From the old PARSON AND SONS Co., Kissena Nurseries, Flushing, New York, their unique and well arranged catalogue of ornamental trees, shrubs, rhododendrons, roses, &c.. This is one of the old, substantial and reliable tree and rare shrub growing establishments in this country, being founded in 1840.

E. P. ROE's Catalogue of small fruits and Grape Vines. Not numerous varieties but very select. Mr. Roe is the author of that beautifully illustrated work, "*Success with Small Fruits*," originally appearing as a serial in Harper's Magazine. Address E. P. Roe, Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.

From JOSEPH HARRIS, Rochester, New York, Field, Garden and Flower Seeds.

From R. K. HAINES, Moorestown, Burlington Co., N. J., a neat catalogue of choice plants.

From J. A. EVERITT, Watsonstown, Pa., Field, Garden and Flower Seeds.

OAKLAND Stud of Percheron-Norman horses. Catalogue from N. W. Dunham, Wayne, DuPage Co., Ill.

DINGEE & CONRAD's splendid Catalogue of Roses, and other flowering plants, for 1883. It has two pages of roses, colored to the life, and other illustrations of roses and flowering plants, showing the improvements of this celebrated firm, already so well and so popularly known. If you want choice roses, true to name, address Dingee and Conrad, West Grove, Chester Co., Pa.

From J. T. LOVETT, Little Silver, N. J., a small, but brilliant catalogue, full of chromos, wood cuts and useful information about the culture of useful and ornamental plants and seeds.

From JOHN SAUL, No. 2 Catalogue of rare and beautiful flower seeds, garden seeds, &c., for 1883, Washington D. C.

From J. A. EVERITT, Watsonstown, Pa., a neat catalogue of seeds for 1883. Mr. E. is publisher of that excellent little journal, *The Agricultural Epitomist*, and makes a specialty of seed potatoes.

Seed Catalogue From WM. RENNIE, Toronto, Canada. Some seeds, like peas, &c., do better when obtained from abroad than when grown by us, and so *vice versa*. It would seem to be a reciprocal law of nature that the South should supply the North with certain seeds, and in return receive a certain class of other seeds for mutual benefit.

From LORD & THOMAS, Chicago.—Their handsome "Handy Lists for Shrewd Advertisers."

From JOHNSON & STOKES, 1114 Market street, Philadelphia. Catalogue of Garden and Field Seeds. Of their very early and productive new improved Leaming Corn we shall perhaps speak more fully next month.

Corn and Potato Manual, by J. C. VAUGHAN, Chicago, Ill., is a capital little treatise on those plants, with a list and illustrations of the best and newest varieties.

Seed Catalogue of Isaac F. Tillinghast, La Plume, Lackawana Co., Pa. Well arranged and highly embellished with wood cuts and colored engravings.

#### Trotting Bred Horses from the Blue Grass for Poplar Grove.

Mr. E. B. Emory has just returned home bringing with him some choicely bred trotting stock. He bought from Genl. Wm. T. Withers, of Lexington, Ky., the bay stallion colt Orestes 1920, sired by Cassius M. Clay, Jr., Dam Princess, by Mambrino Patchen 53, sire of London, 2-20½; 2nd dam Mambrino Chief, sire of Lady Thorn, 2-18½. He was purchased the joint property of J. B. Brown, Wm McKenny, F. A. Emory, Dr. Jas. Cordley, Dr. Jos A. Holton, B. Emory, Jr., J. H. Hall, E. H. Brown, John Emory, of Wm. and E. B. Emory, to be kept by the latter at Poplar Grove. Mr. E. B. Emory bought for himself, also to be put in the stud at Poplar Grove, Belton, got by Belmont 64, sire of Nutwood—2-18½; dam Sallie D, by Strathmore 498, sire of Santa Claus—2-17½. 2nd dam by King William sire of King William—2-20½. Also bay stud colt Avonmore, got by Strathmore 408, sire of Santa Claus—2-17½. Dam, Arline by Almont 33, sire of Picdmont—2-17½; 2nd dam, Madam Smith by Gray Eagle; 3rd dam, Offutt mare by Saxewhmer. He also purchased young mare Molly Goldsmith, by Volunteer Goldsmith and a brown filly by Goldsmith, dam Volunteer Maid by Volunteer 55, sire of St. Julien—2-11½. Mr. Emory now has, at Poplar Grove, four of the best trotting strains represented—Mambrino by Cyclops, Hambletonian by Avonmore, Abdallah by Belton, Clay by Orestes. We are glad to see so many of our Queen Anne's friends interested in breeding improved live stock with so much good blood, it looks as though she intended to lead in breeding the trotter as she has done in breeding the short-horns.

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